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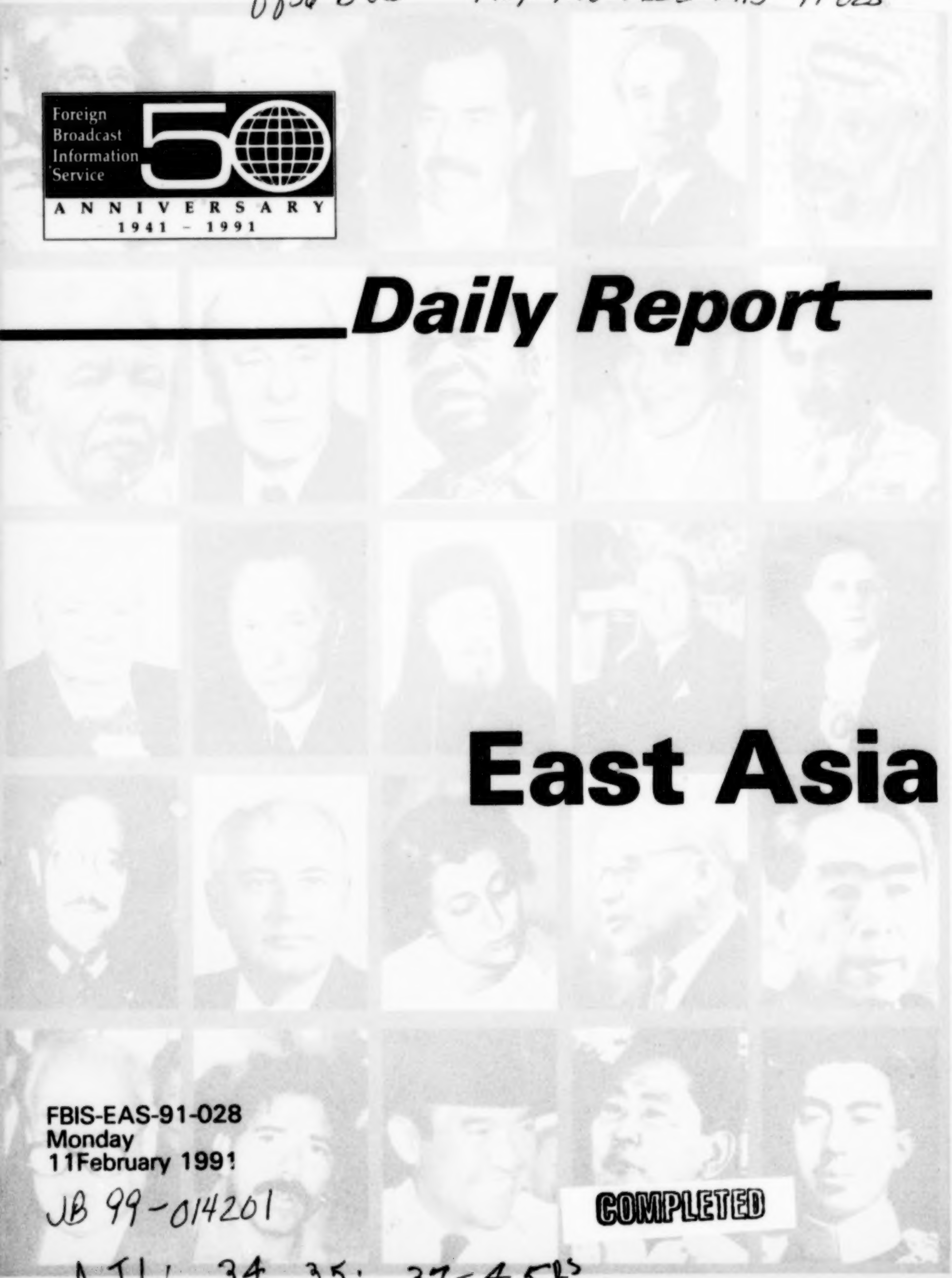

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Japan

Report on 'Accident' at Fukui Nuclear Reactor

OW0902140491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1304 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Fukui, Feb. 9 KYODO—Abnormal levels of radioactivity were detected in part of a nuclear reactor here Saturday, automatically shutting down the reactor and triggering its emergency core cooling system (ECCS), officials said.

No damage was caused to the environment by the incident at Kansai Electric Power Co.'s No. 2 reactor at Mihama Nuclear Power Plant in Fukui Prefecture, they said. No workers at the plant were endangered by the accident, Fukui prefectural government officials said. Kansai Electric Power is based in Osaka.

This was the first time in Japan that the ECCS, which pours a huge amount of water into a reactor's core, had started up while a reactor was malfunctioning, although it had started up by mistake three times in the past, officials at the Natural Resources and Energy Agency said in Tokyo.

Kansai Electric officials said there was no change in radioactivity levels recorded outside the plant. But local antinuclear activists claimed the pressurized water reactor, of a type developed by Westinghouse Corp. of the U.S., must have released invisible radiation.

Agency officials said the 500,000-kilowatt reactor began showing abnormal radioactivity readings in its secondary cooling system at 1:40 P.M., when the reactor was operating at maximum capacity. Plant workers manually started to reduce output, but the reactor automatically stopped at 1:50 P.M. and the ECCS kicked in.

In this type of reactor, water heated by the reactor's core flows through thin tubes, heating the surrounding water into steam. The steam flows through the so-called secondary cooling system and turns the turbine, generating electricity. Agency officials said they suspect some radioactivity flowed into the secondary cooling system.

The 2.2-centimeter tubes, with walls just 1.3 millimeter thick, play a key role in the reactor's steam generator, or heat exchanger, which is regarded as the weak point of a pressurized water reactor.

The officials said they suspect some of the fine tubes were somehow damaged, causing air pressure in the exchanger to fall, setting off an alarm and the emergency cooling system.

Atomic energy expert Sanshiro Kume, a former professor at Osaka University, called the accident serious. He said he suspects at least one of the 7,000 thin tubes in the steam generator had burst.

Damage has been reported several times recently to such fine tubes at other Kansai Electric plants in Fukui Prefecture, forcing the bypassing of some of the tubes, agency officials said. Some 400 tubes have been bypassed so far at the Mihama No. 2 reactor itself, they said. Because of such damage, Kansai Electric has decided to replace the generators at two reactors in the prefecture, the officials said.

Kiyoshi Yoshimura, leader of a civic group opposing some types of nuclear reactors, said it was certain that radioactivity was released outside the plant. He said the accident proved the group's claim that the steam generator is unsafe and defective. Yoshimura said his group, based in Tsuruga near the plant, will insist on a strict review of the device's safety.

TV Reports on Nuclear 'Accident'

OW1002140891 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 10 Feb 91

[Text] A thin tube in a steam generator on the No. 2 nuclear reactor at the Mihama Nuclear Power Plant in Fukui Prefecture was damaged yesterday, triggering an emergency core cooling system into action. In connection with this accident, Kansai Electric Power Company, which owns the power plant, formally acknowledged today that, although there is no fear of the leakage affecting the atmosphere, an extremely small quantity of radioactive matter had been released into the atmosphere.

The accident occurred at the Mihama Nuclear Power Plant in Mihama Town, Fukui Prefecture, yesterday afternoon. A thin tube in a steam generator on its No. 2 nuclear reactor was damaged, causing some of its primary cooling water to be lost and triggering an emergency core cooling system. As a result, a large quantity of water, which cools the fuel rod and other devices in the nuclear reactor, poured into the reactor itself.

Kansai Electric today made clear that there was no change at all in the level of radioactivity in the atmosphere before and after the accident. The company also disclosed the quantity of radioactive matter released into the atmosphere.

According to the company, the radioactive matter released into the atmosphere was a very small quantity, 0.134 curies. This includes waste water from the air ejector on the condenser, which converts steam into water after turning the turbine, from an auxiliary building where turbins and condensers are installed, and from a pressure escape valve on a pipe, which sends secondary cooling water to the turbine.

According to the Science and Technology Agency, this quantity is equivalent to the amount of radioactive matter released for 2 to 3 days from a nuclear reactor operating normally. It is said that there is no fear at all of this quantity affecting the atmosphere in and around the area.

Meanwhile, the Fukui Prefectural Government said that the damaged thin tube on the steam generator is one of 3,620 tubes and, judging from the quantity of primary cooling water that leaked into the secondary cooling water system, there is a strong possibility a large, 2 cubic centimeter hole was opened on a tube, which is 2.2 centimeters in diameter.

Kansai Electric plans to begin work tonight to extract the primary cooling water from the steam generator in which the accident occurred, and to send workers inside the steam generator sometime tomorrow, at the earliest, to confirm which thin tube was damaged.

It also plans to extract water from the secondary coolant system on the steam generator, and take out the damaged thin tube on or about 17 February, at the earliest, to determine the extent of the damage and the cause of the trouble.

Details on Damage at Nuclear Reactor

OW1002151591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1427 GMT 10 Feb 91

[Text] Fukui, Feb. 10 KYODO—Nuclear technical experts have spotted one damaged tube in the steam generator of a nuclear reactor at Mihama Nuclear Power Plant on the Japan Sea coast, Japan, one day after abnormal levels of radioactivity were detected, plant officials said Sunday.

The Kansai Electric Power Co.'s No. 2 reactor's warning system was automatically operated Saturday when it detected abnormal radioactivity and its Emergency Core Cooling System (ECCS) poured a huge amount of water into its reactor core.

If the ECCS had not been operated, reactor cores would have melted down due to excessive heat generation, which would have released a large mount of radioactivity into the air, the officials said. They said the volume of radioactivity caused by the accident was not harmful to humans.

The nuclear experts found a hole about 2 centimeters deep at one point in the long, thin tube, covering about 60 percent of the 3.1 square centimeter area of its cross section. The tube has a circumference of 6.9 centimeters. The tube is one of some 7,000 in a steam generator which heats the surrounding water into steam, that flows through the secondary cooling water system of the reactor. The steam turns a turbine which generates electricity.

About 20 tons of primary cooling water, which circulates to cool down the reactor core and control rods, was estimated to flow into the secondary system, the officials said.

They said operators tried to detect an abnormality in the No. 2 reactor one hour before the warning system was automatically operated.

After February 17, when the water is expected to be drained and radiation levels safe, experts will try to discover why the tube of the primary cooling system was damaged, the officials said.

The Nuclear Safety Commission, an advisory body of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, said it will hold an emergency session on Tuesday to examine the accident.

The Natural Resources and Energy Agency said it decided to send a directive to electric power companies across the country to screen steam generation equipment in reactors the same as the one that malfunctioned at the Mihama plant.

Meanwhile, groups objecting to the construction of nuclear power stations staged a rally in front of the headquarters of the Kansai Electric Power Co. in Osaka, western Japan in protest at the accident. The groups handed over an "emergency" questionnaire to the company, while chanting "no more Hiroshima, "no nuclear power stations" and other anti-nuclear slogans.

The groups demanded an apology from the company for the accident. The company replied it will explain the accident to them later.

Official Says Aid to Jordan To Continue

OW0902111191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1059 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 9 KYODO—Japan will continue aid to Jordan despite signs of worsening relations between the Middle East nation and the United States amid the Persian Gulf war, a Foreign Ministry official said Saturday.

The official, who declined to be named, said Japan's aid to Jordan is important to prevent the country from breaking away from the U.S.-led alliance.

Jordanian King Husayn said in an emotional televised speech Wednesday that the Gulf war is against all Arabs and Muslims and that the multinational force is trying to destroy Iraq.

The Foreign Ministry official said Washington recognizes the importance of Jordan for stability in the region and Japan is closely following developments in relations between the United States and Jordan. The official ruled out the possibility of Washington-Amman relations deteriorating rapidly.

The Japanese Government has decided to set aside about 700 million dollars for aid to Jordan out of its 2 billion dollar contribution to "frontline" countries affected by United Nations- imposed economic sanctions against Iraq.

Jordan remains cautious about Japan's offer to dispatch Self- Defense Forces transport planes to Amman to airlift refugees fleeing the war.

No U.S. Request for Gulf Aid to Israel Received

OW0902052391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0506 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Washington, Feb. 8 KYODO—U.S. Secretary of State James Baker has promised to deliver a request to Japan and the European Community (EC) to help Israel pay for the damage caused by Iraqi missile attacks, a Jewish lobby official said Friday.

Shoshana Cardin, chairwoman of the conference of the presidents of major Jewish organizations, said Baker made the pledge in a meeting with her and other Jewish leaders on January 31. Cardin and other U.S. Jewish leaders met separately with President George Bush the same day.

She said Baker told her group that he will be speaking to the EC and Japan, and that it is possible that Israel will receive some financial assistance in rebuilding due to damage caused by the Persian Gulf war since they were offering assistance to other affected countries.

Baker promised to seek assistance for Israel because the Jewish state is suffering from the war although it is not a combatant nor a member of the anti-Iraq coalition, Cardin said.

Japanese diplomats said the Japanese Government has not received a U.S. request for Gulf war aid to Tel Aviv.

Kaifu Pledges More International Peacemaking Aid

OW1102092491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0855 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 11 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu marked Japan's National Founding Day Monday with a pledge to contribute more to international peacemaking, while opponents of the Persian Gulf war protested at Japan's involvement.

Iraq's invasion of Kuwait has provided a mandate for Japan to play a larger role in the international community, Kaifu told a commemorative ceremony backed by Japan's top business leaders. But he avoided spelling out any vision for this expanded role, saying only that Japan will remain "devoted to peace" as it seeks to shoulder greater international responsibilities.

Kaifu has run into opposition to his 9 billion dollar pledge to U.S.-led multinational forces in the Gulf from citizens and opposition parties who say supporting war is to counter the Constitution, which renounces the use of force as a means of settling international disputes.

Meanwhile at the same ceremony, Bunpei Otsuki, leader of the Japan Federation of Employers' Association, addressed the controversy over the annual holiday, which critics say is aimed at glorifying the emperor.

According to ancient chronicles, the legendary Emperor Jimmu was enthroned on the first lunar day of the first lunar month in 660 B.C. The lunar calendar date was set as February 11 on the Gregorian calendar and was pronounced a national holiday in 1872 by the Meiji government, which called it "kigensetsu" (the beginning of the nation day) in an effort to promote the imperial institution. The holiday was abolished after World War II because of its associations with emperor worship, but it was reinstated in 1966 by conservative politicians as "kenkoku kinen no hi" (national founding day).

Otsuki said it was important to commemorate the day even if its significance is based on legends, because they create a sense of common heritage that binds the nation together.

The ceremony, sponsored by the business-backed society to celebrate national holidays, was also attended by dignitaries from both chambers of the Diet, local governments and diplomatic representatives from 34 countries.

Elsewhere in Tokyo the National Federation for Upholding the Constitution, led by Masashi Ishibashi, former chairman of the Japan Socialist Party (currently Social Democratic Party), protested the government's efforts to reinstate the pre-war holiday at a symposium on the emperor system.

A Christian group at a separate rally protested a government plan to dispatch Self-Defense Forces transport planes to the Middle East on refugee evacuation mission, and called for a stop to official visits by government dignitaries to Yasukuni Shrine, where war criminals are enshrined.

Many Japanese, however, took advantage of the three-day holiday this year by making trips to ski resorts and other leisure sites.

Social Democrats Propose Gulf Aid Package

OW0802142391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1314 GMT 8 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 8 KYODO—Japan's No. 1 opposition party, the Social Democratic Party (SDP), on Friday proposed that Japan provide 2 billion dollars of untied aid for employment, medical, and educational purposes to countries affected by the Persian Gulf War.

The SDP, renamed last week from the Japan Socialist Party, said Japan should donate the money to a group of nations hit hard by the war, including India and the Philippines. It also proposed Japan give 100 million dollars to share costs estimated by the United Nations for refugee relief projects, and another 100 million dollars for UN peace monitoring when the Gulf war ends.

In a related development, Mutsuki Kato, chairman of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's Policy Affairs Research Council, instructed the party's think tank to map out possible Japanese economic and other forms of commitment for postwar peace initiatives in the Middle East, party sources said.

Spokesman Defends Payments of Gulf War Aid

OW0802151091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1404 GMT 8 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 8 KYODO—Japan on Friday criticized a senior U.S. Treasury official's remarks that Japan's payment of its aid to Persian Gulf war frontline states is too slow and its grant element too small.

"I don't understand the logic of a person who said that (Japan's aid) is slow," Foreign Ministry spokesman Taizo Watanabe told a group of foreign correspondents. "That person must be not well-versed with the system and the actual speed of implementing emergency commodity loans."

Watanabe was referring to complaints voiced Tuesday by David Mulford, treasury undersecretary for international affairs, who said the United States has repeatedly conveyed its concern to Japan over the slowness of its aid to the frontline states of Egypt, Turkey, and Jordan.

Mulford noted that only 19 percent, or 400 million dollars, of the approximately 2 billion dollars pledged by Japan has actually been disbursed.

Watanabe countered that before Gulf hostilities broke out three weeks ago, Japan had been considering a more time-consuming method of aid disbursement involving cofinancing with the World Bank, in which time was required to identify specific projects. But after the battle began on January 17, he said Japan decided to extend all of its aid for frontline states in the form of emergency commodity loans, as they can be more speedily dispersed.

A ministry aid official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Japan "is proud of speed with which we are extending assistance to the frontline states," especially in comparison with other donor countries.

The official confirmed Mulford's figures for the Japanese aid so far disbursed, but noted that 300 million dollars in emergency commodity loans for Egypt have been ready for immediate disbursal since last December.

The loans are still awaiting final approval from the Egyptian Parliament.

Jordan has stated publicly that Japan was the fastest donor to that country, the official said.

Watanabe also took issue with critics who have complained that Japanese funding for the frontline states is almost entirely in the form of loans. He said the Japanese loan package is "almost identical" to a package of grants because it contains a 75-percent "grant element," which is determined by comparing its rates with those of commercial loans.

The conditions of the concessional loans pledged by Japan are 1 percent interest per annum and repayment over 30 years, with a 10- year grace period.

Watanabe also noted that the decision to extend emergency commodity loans instead of direct grants enabled the timely availability of such a size of money. "The time factor is the most important," a ministry aid official said. "When we resort to grants then lots of formalities have to get cleared and it takes at least several months before they can be delivered," the official said.

Individuals Volunteer To Join Iraqi Force

OW0902011091 Naha RYUKYU SHIMPO in Japanese 9 Feb 91 Morning Edition p 1

[Text] It was learned on 8 February that a number of Japanese have volunteered through the Iraqi embassy in Tokyo to join the Iraqi force and fight the multinational force in the Gulf war. The embassy has not disclosed the exact number of these volunteers, but at least a dozen people are known to have volunteered so far. The embassy is expected to announce soon its official stand on whether to accept them.

Volunteer movements of foreigners wanting to join the Iraqi force exist in Asia in such countries as Pakistan and Malaysia which have large Islamic populations, but this is the first time that it has been learned that there are Japanese "volunteers" also. It is not clear whether Iraq will eventually accept these volunteers, but it is said that Iraq has been actively seeking to enlist foreign volunteers in and out of the country.

Mr. Ko Ichi (age 24) of Meguro District, Tokyo, an employee of a small business, who visited the embassy on 8 February to volunteer his services, said: "It does not necessarily mean that I am supporting all that the Husayn government stands for, but I am sympathetic to the Iraqi position appealing for the liberation of the Palestinians. I do not belong to any political party, and I want to go there as a private person." Told that he could be exposing his own life to danger, he calmly expressed his resolve, saying: "I have fears, but I want to fight as a human being helping the weak."

The Japanese Government, including the Foreign Ministry, has not yet officially acknowledged the existence of this volunteer movement.

Komeito on Plan To Dispatch SDF Planes to Gulf

OW0802211891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1459 GMT 8 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 8 (KYODO)—Japan's No. 2 opposition party Komeito charged the government Friday with using twisted logic to defend a new ordinance that paves the way for the dispatch of military planes to run refugee relief missions in the Middle East.

The government of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu said earlier in the day there is no need to revise the existing Self-Defense Forces [SDF] law to use military aircraft on Persian Gulf war refugee evacuation missions.

In a position paper, the government said that the evacuation of refugees fleeing the war would be a "temporary emergency measure" to be carried out from a humanitarian point of view and at the request of international organizations. A clear legal stipulation would be necessary, however, for the SDF to evacuate Overseas Japanese as part of the SDF's normal operations, the document said. Position papers bind government interpretations of the law.

Komeito had requested that the government issue the paper, pointing out that the government of former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone did not send SDF planes to evacuate Japanese during the Iran-Iraq war.

During the Iran-Iraq war the government said that military aircraft could not be used to rescue Japanese without ammending the Self-Defense Forces Law, a process that requires consent of the two chambers of the Diet, or parliament. At that time, the government explained that the existing law does not give the SDF any overseas mission.

Komeito Secretary General Yuichi Ichikawa criticized the position paper on the legality of the ordinance, saying it did not sufficiently explain why the government requires a revision of the SDF law to evacuate Overseas Japanese from war zones, but not refugees of other nationalities. "This is not a position paper, it is full of slipshod logic aimed at justifying the (military) dispatch," said the leader of the Buddhist-backed opposition party.

On January 29, the government issued a new ordinance to pave the way for sending SDF planes to the Middle East to transport refugees fleeing from the Gulf war. The ordinance pertains only to the transport of refugees displaced by the Gulf crisis. The government ordinance was issued under an article of the Self- Defense Forces Law which says that SDF planes may be used to transport the emperor, the prime minister, and "other people" who are designated by ordinance.

The opposition has objected to the overseas dispatch of military aircraft, saying that it will create a precedent for wider military deployment, and is contradictory to Japan's war-renouncing Constitution.

Plan Causing 'Anxiety'

OW1102102991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0938 GMT 11 Feb 91

[By Tadashi Matsumoto]

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 11 KYODO—The planned dispatch of Japanese military planes to the Middle East on refugee evacuation missions has aroused anxiety among, and drawn criticism from, many Japanese citizens, including family members of Self-Defense Forces [SDF] personnel.

An anti-war civic group says it has been asked on the telephone by 14 Air Self-Defense Force [ASDF] staff and their families if there is any justifiable way of refusing an order to go to the Middle East.

"The ASDF crew and their family members are in a desperate situation," said Shigemi Shimao, leader of the group in Aichi Prefecture, which opposes the dispatch of the C-130 transports based at Komaki Air Base near Nagoya.

The government of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu has reiterated that the sending of the planes is not a "use of force" banned under the Constitution. "Japan will send the planes for nonmilitary, humanitarian purposes," Kaifu has said. But the Iraqi ambassador to Japan, Rashid al-Rifa'i, has hinted at possible Iraqi attacks on the SDF planes, saying Baghdad can give no guarantee that military aircraft will not be subject to attack. "We do advise the Japanese side...that if they want to carry on any humanitarian campaign to save those refugees from the area, it should be done completely by civilian means," Al-Rifa'i said in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE last week.

Japanese commanders have told pilots and maintenance crews that they will be punished if they refuse an order to participate in operations to evacuate refugees from the Persian Gulf war, Shimao said, quoting the wife of one pilot at the Komaki Base.

The Japanese Government plans to send four out of the 15 C-130H transport planes deployed at the Komaki Base to the Middle East to evacuate refugees from Amman or Damascus to Cairo. About 200 ASDF staff will join the operation, according to officials.

Toyoyuki Furuta, a pilot at Komaki, expressed his ambiguous feelings by saying, "I have yet to be ordered by commanders to go to the Middle East. I will obey an order if they ask me to do so...but, to tell the truth, I don't want to go there."

Meanwhile, Toshihiro Yamauchi, an authority on the Japanese Constitution and professor at Dokkyo University, describes as "nonsense" a Japanese Government contention that the dispatch of ASDF transport planes to areas near the Gulf war is not a military operation.

Motoya Yamada, spokesman of the ASDF Komaki Base, said transport planes will have no alternative but to launch counterattacks if attacked.

Civic groups have so far staged several rallies in Tokyo, Nagoya and other major cities across Japan in protest against the dispatch of the ASDF transport planes.

Kaifu: No Room To Live in 'Isolated Peace'

OW0902081191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0640 GMT 9 Feb 91

[By Jocelyn Ford]

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 9 KYODO—The conflict in the Persian Gulf has been the focus of parliamentary business for the past two weeks in Japan, but Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu has barely said the word "war."

The "w" word has become a virtual taboo here among government leaders, who have taken to describing the war with euphemisms such as the "peace restoring activities" and the "use of force."

"If you say the word 'war' it implies two countries going at each other, and neither one is 100 percent in the right," explained an aide to the prime minister. The Persian Gulf conflict is different, he said, because "Iraq is wrong, and the United States and others are right."

The semantic gymnastics are an indication of the confusion Japan faces as it tries to reconcile its 11 billion dollar pledge for the U.S.-led multinational forces with its postwar Constitution, which rejects war as a means of resolving international disputes.

In appealing to the public, Kaifu has tried to mold a new interpretation of pacifism, which many Japanese have come to embrace over the past four decades as an integral part of their national identity.

The antiwar philosophy, as interpreted from Japan's post-World War II Constitution, is the basis for Japan's keeping a small military, only capable of self-defense. But times are changing, says one Foreign Ministry official who regularly consults with Kaifu, and as a major economic power Japan can no longer afford to remain aloof of conflicts like that in the Gulf.

"Just saying we want peace is not enough. We have to act to enforce principles," he said, agreeing with U.S. President George Bush's description of the Gulf war as a "just" war.

Kaifu has taken a carrot-and-stick approach to explain why Japan's support for the war is essential to the future of the nation, playing off the specter of international isolation against appeals to Japan's new sense of importance as one of the world's wealthiest industrial powers.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama may have provided the most succinct public expression of Japan's fears when, before a House of Representatives Budget Committee session, he questioned whether the U.S. would come to Japan's defense in the future if Tokyo does not cooperate in the Gulf.

Groping for a more positive tack, Kaifu has explained that, having relinquished the option of joining military action, financial assistance is the only way to demonstrate Japan's will to participate in the creation of "a new world order." There is no room for Japan to live in "isolated peace," says Kaifu.

Japan's assistance in refugee evacuation—including the controversial proposal to deploy military aircraft—reflects Japan's humanitarian concerns, he says. In private, however, officials of the government and its ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) say there is more at stake.

The size of Japan's monetary contribution will be a major factor in determining Japan's say in the postwar order in the region, says Kaifu's Foreign Ministry adviser.

The plan to dispatch four or five Air Self-Defense Force (ASDF) transport planes to the Gulf may seem skimpy to many Americans, said the aide, "but it is important symbolically, to show that we are also taking risks." It remains unclear toward what end Japan hopes to exercise the influence it appears to be seeking.

Foreign Ministry officials have suggested that Japan's role after the Gulf war would be largely focused on rebuilding Kuwait and eliminating the economic gap between rich and poor Arab nations, although Japan is also hoping to promote curbs on weapons stockpiles in the region. Others close to the prime minister appear to be weighing the value of diplomacy in more mercantile terms.

An attempt by U.S. legislators to impose 20 percent surcharges on trade with countries that failed to make a substantial contribution to the allied military effort prompted one official to do some swift arithmetic.

"If you calculate (Japan's exports) this comes to 19 billion or 20 billion dollars. It is clear which is cheaper," he said.

The government's handling of the Gulf crisis has been hit by critics from across the political spectrum, with many pointing to its lack of vision. "Japanese diplomacy in relation to the Gulf is just following the strong voice of the U.S.," says Yoshiaki Iisaka, a political scientist and professor at Gakushuin University.

If Japan fails to establish an independent stance from the U.S. now, it could forfeit possibilities for a greater role in the region later, he says. "We are bound by the Constitution to a kind of national pacifism, so naturally our way of doing things will be different from what the U.S. wants us to do," he said, suggesting Japan stick to actions that "help people."

The president of the think tank policy study group, Motoo Shiina, counters that Japan should have dispatched supply ships and destroyers to the Gulf area just to show it is participating in the effort. "In order to be a major power in the world, Japan should become an ordinary country. We have to say goodbye to blind pacifism, which is incompatible with views of the rest of the world," says Shiina, a former LDP member of the House of Representatives.

As for Japan's philosophy for the new world order, there is none yet, says Shiina. "Such matters have been forgotten over the past 45 years, and we cannot formulate them in one day."

Officials Prepare for Gorbachev's April Visit

OW1002053391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0515 GMT 10 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 10 KYODO—With Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's visit due in just over two months, Japanese hosts are perplexed as to how to fulfill the expectations to improve Soviet- Japan ties on the short four-day tour.

The official part of the April 16-19 trip is more or less set—talks with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, a meeting with Emperor Akihito, and an address to the Diet, among other engagements in Tokyo. Apart from these official functions, the government hopes the long-anticipated visit, the first by a top Soviet leader, will provide the opportunity for Gorbachev to travel outside the capital and see the Japanese society at work, sources said. The sources said the Foreign Ministry has already conveyed the Japanese wish to Moscow and officials from the two sides are working on the itinerary.

Since Moscow has announced that Gorbachev has set aside four days for his Japan trip, Foreign Ministry officials in Tokyo have been at pains to maximize the effect of the visit since the actual amount of time the Soviet leader spends in Japan would be about three and a half days. That is hardly enough time to accommodate all the wishes from Tokyo and some of local authorities which have been enthusiastic to get a slice of Gorbachev's schedule.

The fervor for an appearance by Gorbachev has been particularly strong in the prefectures of Hokkaido and Niigata, where there are are strong grass-root activities to promote ties between the two nations. Hiroshima has also invited Gorbachev to visit the world's atomic-bombed city, and so has Kansai, home to the ancient capital of Kyoto and the thriving industrial and commercial center of Osaka. Tokyo, however, is intent to lionize Gorbachev's time in order to bring about what Kaifu hopes will be a "breakthrough" in the long- stalled Soviet-Japanese relations.

Government sources said official business in Tokyo alone is expected to detain Gorbachev in the capital for at least two days, and possibly three. Any side trip, with Kyoto and Osaka said to be top on the list, would come after that. The official reasoning is that the main objective of Gorbachev's trip to Japan is political, revolving around his summit talks with Kaifu.

The Soviet presidential spokesman, Vitaliy Ignatenko, told KYODO NEWS SERVICE last week that Gorbachev will offer a "package" of proposals during his trip to Tokyo. The proposals apparently include the difficult territorial dispute over Japan's claim to four northern Pacific islands the Soviet Union occupied from the end of World War II.

If the two leaders explore the full spectrum of bilateral ties, as some Foreign Ministry officials speculate, they may find themselves locked into fruitless exchanges until Gorbachev leaves Japan. "If possible, we would like the visit extended for one more day," a Foreign Ministry source said.

Ministry officials said the Japanese Foreign Ministry has raised the idea of stretching Gorbachev's trip with Ignatenko. If an extension is not possible, the tentative itinerary drawn up by the Foreign Ministry calls for Gorbachev to stay in Tokyo until April 18, leaving Tokyo the next day for a day trip around Kyoto and Osaka before departing Japan from Osaka.

Nicaraguan President Arrives for 4-Day Visit

OW1102074191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0713 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 11 KYODO—Nicaragua's President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro arrived in Tokyo on Monday for a four-day official visit for talks with Japanese leaders.

Chamorro will meet with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu at the Akasaka State Guesthouse in the evening and attend a dinner given by Kaifu there.

The Nicaraguan president will leave Japan on Thursday for Brussels after meeting Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko on Tuesday and holding a press conference on Wednesday.

Ota Not Cooperating on U.S. Forces 'Special Law'

OW1002061591 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese 10 Feb 91 Morning Edition p 1

[Text] Governor Ota firmed up his plan on 9 February to boycott the Defense Facilities Administration Bureau [DFAB] Naha Office's request for the prefectural government to act on its behalf in making public announcements and opening the inspection of papers applying for approval on the extended use of land by the U.S. forces to the public. The DFAB Naha Office was expected to make the request for this administrative action on its behalf early this week.

The current lease contracts are due to expire on 14 May 1992. The DFAB has been seeking to gain the right for continued use of the land held by landowners refusing to renew the lease contracts by resorting to the Special Law on Land for the U.S. forces. However, it is essential for the DFAB to have the cooperation of the governor in order to fulfill the steps required by the special law.

There is no doubt that the governor's decision to reject the DFAB's request to make the public announcements and for the public view of the papers will be a major shock to the national government, which is pursuing the maintainance of the Japan-U.S. security structure.

The DFAB has been taking steps to have the current lease contracts extended after 15 May 1992, but there were some landowners refusing to renew the contracts. The office filed requests for the forced use of land in accordance with the Special Law on Land for the U.S. Forces with the Prefectural Expropriation Committee last November.

The Prefectural Expropriation Committee subsequently decided to accept the requests, and sent out letters to the heads of 11 cities and towns in the prefecture, requesting them to make the public announcements and put the papers on public view. These papers are intended to inform the people concerned of details of the land to be subjected to forced use and of the government intent to approve such use. But the reformist heads of five cities and towns, including Naha City, rejected the Expropriation Committee's request. As a matter of administrative procedure, this means that the DFAB then has no choice but to request the governor himself perform the actions. The DFAB has not yet made the request, but is expected to do so as soon as the week opens.

A prefectural government is required to perform the act of making public announcements and putting the papers on public view when so entrusted by a national government office or agency. For instance, at the time the 1991 budget was compiled, the Ota-led prefectural government agreed to perform the work of recruiting Self-Defense Force members as an act entrusted by the central government, even though the government did use a rather suggestive expression—"we will do it this time"—in agreeing to do it. Governor Ota emphatically talked about the meaning of a reformist-led prefectural government during the discussions at that time. He has since firmed up his intention to boycott a request to act on the forced use of land. He confirmed his intentions to three executives of the prefectural government.

Once the DFAB files a request and the request is rejected by the governor, the central government can have the prime minister issue an executive order to the governor. A claims suit can be filed with a higher court if the governor does not comply with that executive order. If the higher court rules that the claim is justifiable, the prime minister instead can make the public announcements and make the papers available for public viewing. It is also institutionally possible for the prime minister to fire the governor.

There are two occasions when a prefectural governor can intervene in the course of the Special Law on Use of Land for the U.S. Forces (Land Expropiration Law as regards administrative procedures) being applied to implement the forced use or expropriation of land. The first occasion is when the DFAB requests the Prefectural Expropriation Committee to start preparing the papers in request of the approval. For this case, that step was completed while the previous government was in administration. The second opportunity for gubernatorial intervention is when the request is made for the governor to act on the public announcement and view of the papers.

It is extraordinary that a governor boycotts an administrative process entrusted by a central government office with regard to the Special Law on the U.S. Forces. The national government considers it a supreme task to secure land for the U.S. forces and is most apprehensive of a legal vacuum occurring to the right to use the land. If rejected by Governor Ota, it is possible that the national government will take emergency measures, like legislating a special law. The shock to the national government will indeed be immeasurable.

Government To Stop Using Private Oil Reserves

OW0902084191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0721 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 9 KYODO—Japan will stop drawing from its private crude oil reserve in March, Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) officials said Saturday.

The officials said there is no further need to tap into oil companies' reserves, as an unimpeded supply of oil from the Middle East and the release of reserves in the U.S., Germany, and Japan, has pushed oil prices down to levels of 15 dollars per barrel. This price compares closely to levels in effect before Iraq invaded Kuwait last August 2.

In accordance with an International Energy Agency (IEA) decision to increase the supply of oil to the market, MITI allowed wholesalers to reduce their required stockpile from a minimum 82-day supply to 78 days. The IEA decision came after the outbreak of war between Iraq and the U.S.-led multinational forces on January 17.

The four days of supplies will be released by the end of this month, but in March no further supplies will be drawn and wholesalers' mandatory reserves will remain at a 78-day supply, the officials said.

Institute Launches Rocket To Observe Ozone Layer

OW0902062791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0619 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Kagoshima, Feb. 9 KYODO—Japan on Saturday launched a rocket to release an observatory device to detect the density of the ozone layer to try to prove its suspected destruction, officials said.

The Education Ministry's Institute of Space and Astronautical Science succeeded in firing the MT-135-53 rocket from its space station at Uchinoura in the southern prefecture of Kagoshima.

The 3.3-meter rocket, Japan's second launch since last August, was to release the device at an altitude of 55 kilometers to detect the strength of the sun's rays on its way down to an altitude of 20 kilometers, the officials said. The data will be calculated into the density of the ozone layer, they said.

The institute is also set on Sunday to launch the third rocket in its years-long project to monitor damages to the ozone layer which absorbs the sun's ultraviolet rays harmful to life on Earth.

Launches Another Rocket

OW1102054791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0507 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Uchinoura, Kagoshima Pref., Feb. 11 KYODO—The Education Ministry's Institute of Space and Aeronautical Science successfully launched another rocket to monitor the ozone layer from the Kagoshima Space Center at Uchinoura Monday morning.

The MT-135-54 rocket will monitor long-term changes in the ozone layer, which absorbs the sun's potentially damaging ultraviolet rays.

It is the third ozone-layer observation rocket to be launched in the current series of experiments. The second such rocket was launched on Saturday.

The space center is located about 60 kilometers southeast of this southern Japanese city.

Finance Ministry Outlines Reform Package

OW2901083691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0751 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 29 KYODO—The Finance Ministry on Tuesday outlined its financial reform package for lowering the walls between the country's banking and securities industries.

The package, designed to revamp Japan's highly protected financial market to foster competition, allows banks and brokerages to enter each other's business areas through specially created wholly owned subsidiaries.

In effect, the move marks an end to their 40 years of postwar segregation, enshrined in Article 65 of the country's Securities and Exchange Law.

But the scope of the deregulation, based on recommendations compiled last spring by the Financial Systems Research Council and the Securities and Exchange Council, both advisory bodies to the finance minister, is narrowed by a number of restrictions.

For instance, banks will not be allowed to engage in stock brokerage, the most lucrative segment of a securities company's business, for 10 years after the reforms are introduced, which is expected to be in 1993. Their entry would be limited to underwriting of corporate bonds and other fractions of the brokerage business for the time being.

These limits reflect the ministry's apprehension that allowing banks to do stock brokerage services would spark conflicts of interest and would inflict severe damage on smaller brokerage firms.

The package also forbids for some time the trust banking subsidiaries of major commercial and regional banks and securities companies from dealing in loan trusts, the core service of trust banks.

Securities companies would be allowed to handle some foreign- exchange business without setting up special subsidiaries, under the proposal.

After consultations with the various sectors of the financial industry, the ministry plans to finalize the package by May and then to draft related bills so that they will pass the Diet during 1992 and be enforced in January 1993.

Mongolia

President Meets Public on Eve of Lunar New Year

OW0802085491 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1510 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 7 Feb (MONTSAME)—P. Ochirbat, president of the MPR [Mongolian People's Republic], today met with readers of the newspaper ULAANBAATAR, organ of the executive administration of the People's Hural of the capital.

Responding to questions from representatives of the capital's public, the president said that he supports the activities of the government and considers recent reforms of the price formation system to be a correct step. He called on the public to display self-restraint and self-control for the sake of the country's renewal.

The meeting was arranged by the editorial office of the newspaper ULAANBAATAR. In future this kind of meeting between the president and public representatives will be held annually before the advent of the New Year according to the Eastern Calendar.

Free Labor Party Chief Demands Official Apology

OW0802085791 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1507 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 7 Feb (MONTSAME)—The Main Police Administration has put MPR [Mongolian People's Republic] Prime Minister D. Byambasuren in an embarrassing position. It presented him with erroneous reports on the activities of C. Dul, leader of the Party of Free Labor (PFL) and chairman of the "Tsahim Oyuun" ("Electronic Intellect") cooperative. On the basis of this information the prime minister, in public statements, named C. Dul as one of a number of cooperative workers who are illegally acquiring large consignments of products intended for the population.

In its protest to the government, the cooperative refutes the prime minister's allegations addressed to "Tsahim Oyuun" and explained the premier's behavior as "covered resistance to the PFL's justified criticism of Resolution No. 20" (The reform of the price formation system, as a result of which the buying power of the tugrik decreased twofold, was carried out on the basis of this resolution). The PFL sees an attempt to discredit the cooperative movement and the party itself in the premier's pronouncement.

Apologies by the newspaper ARDYN ERH, which published a report on the meeting of the prime minister [passage indistinct] at the news conference C. Dul he intends to demand a public apology from D. Byambasuren.

The PFL was the only organized political force that opposed government Resolution No. 20.

'Open Economic Policy' Affects Border Crossings

OW1102055391 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1450 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 6 Feb (MONTSAME)—The open economic policy and liberalization of procedures for entry and exit from the country caused a sharp increase in the flow of passengers and freight, almost doubling the former and increasing the latter by one and a half times in 1990 when compared to past years. Nearly 700,000 foreign citizens from 60 countries, and more than 200,000 transport vehicles passed through border controls in crossing the MPR [Mongolian People's Republic] state border.

During this period, 4,300 infringements of the country's exit and entry regulations were revealed. Smuggled goods to the value of some 300,000 turgiks, concealed in automobiles and trains, were confiscated.

On the Mongolian-Chinese border, 148 cases of infringement were registered, and 44 on the northern border. Out of 452 offenders, 101 people were detained. The unlawful border crossings mainly occur with the aim of poaching, speculation, and the search for lost livestock. More than 20.000 head of cattle were returned to the Chinese side. In turn, the Chinese border guards helped find 37,000 head and returned them to the owners.

From the Mongolian side, there were five border infringements, and eight crossing attempts thwarted.

North Korea

Radio Reports on Anti-Gulf Activities in South

SK1102113391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1020 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 11 (KCNA)—More than 300 students attacked Tongdap police booth, Tongdaemun District, Seoul, Saturday afternoon, denouncing with bitter indignation the puppet authorities' involvement in the Gulf war and the case of privileged distribution of housing lot in Suso District, according to a radio report from South Korea.

Noting that the present "regime" is cooling down the public atmosphere with the Gulf war as a pretext and committing irregularities such as the aforesaid case, the students demanded an end to involvement in the Gulf war and probe into the scandal.

Over 100 members of five women's Christian organizations including the South Korean Federation of Church Women's Associations held a prayer meeting at the Pagoda Park, Seoul, that day for an end to the Gulf war and peace.

At the meeting they unanimously opposed the dispatch of puppet troops to the Gulf war.

Kim Il-song Sends Wreath To Condole Sihanouk

SK0902110891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1047 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 9 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent a wreath, expressing condolences on the death of Madame Pomme Peang, mother-in-law of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Cambodia.

Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Cha Pong-chu who is heading a DPRK mourning delegation, on February 8 called at the residence of the Cambodian president in Beijing and laid the wreath before the bier of the late Madame Pomme Peang.

Kim Il-song Sends Greetings to Namibian President

SK1102061391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0510 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 11 (KCNA)—President Kim Ii-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on February 10 sent a message to Namibian President Sam Nujoma in reply to his message of solidarity supporting the DPRK's new proposal for national reunification. He said in the reply that the Namibian people's support to the DPRK's proposal for national reunification is a great encouragement to the Korean people who are struggling to ensure peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and accelerate the peaceful reunification of the country. Expressing the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries will grow stronger and develop, he heartily wished the Namibian president and people greater success in their work for building a new independent and prosperous society.

Kim Il-song Congratulates Vieira on Reelection

SK1102055691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0502 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 11 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, on February 9 sent a message of greetings to Joao Bernardo Vieira upon his reelection as secretary general of the African Party for Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde.

The message expresses the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the parties and peoples of the two countries will grow stronger and develop in the idea of independence, friendship and peace in the future.

I wish you and your party fresh success in the endeavours to consolidate the national independence and build a new society, it adds.

CPRF Refutes 'Smear Campaign' Against North

SK1102061191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0513 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 11 (KCNA)—The Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland [CPRF] released its information No. 582 on February 10 denouncing the South Korean authorities for frenziedly resorting to a dastardly smear campaign against the northern half of Korea with the outbreak of the Gulf war. According to a radio report from South Korea, No Tae-u recently ordered the whole puppet army to strengthen the "alert posture", crying that "possibilities of provocations by the North" have grown under the situation of the Gulf war. Alleging that the North "is supplying Scud missiles" to Iraq, he even let loose nonsensical words that there might be a missile attack from the North. This is a direct product of the anti-communist intrigues conceived in a far-fetched manner to heighten precautions against the North and create an atmosphere of war fear among the South Korean people, the information says, and continues: No sooner had the war erupted in the Gulf region than the South Korean authorities proclaimed an "emergency wartime system" across South Korea as if they had been waiting for it. Then, they get the puppet army forces ready for northward invasion and launched the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises, bringing in huge U.S. imperialist aggression armed forces from abroad, deliberately aggravating the situation. The South Korean authorities must act with discretion and give up the dastardly smear campaign against us forthwith, mindful that the more desperate they become in the intrigues and confrontation row against our Republic, the clearer they reveal their ugly color to the world.

Foreign Parties Support Reunification Proposal

SK0902104691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1011 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 9 (KCNA)—The new proposal for national reunification advanced by Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, has evoked full support and sympathy from among heads of political parties of many countries.

Alfredo Filomeno, general secretary of the Revolutionary Socialist Party of Peru, stressed that the proposal of reunification by means of confederation based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments is of particular importance.

He demanded that for the peace and peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula the North and the South should adopt a nonaggression declaration and drastically cut their Armed Forces, a peace agreement be signed between the DPRK and the United States and the U.S. forces and nuclear arms be withdrawn from South Korea.

E.M.S. Namboodiripad, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of India (Marxist), voiced full support to the proposal to cut Armed Forces and prevent war and the proposal to enter the United Nations with one seat.

If the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities refuse to accept these reasonable proposals, he emphasized, it will reveal once again to the world that they are not interested at all in a peaceful settlement of the Korean question.

Ambroise Edouard Noumazalaye, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Congolese Party of Labor, fully supported the proposal of reunification by means of confederation, saying that it is the only way of achieving the reunification of Korea.

The DPRK's new proposal for national reunification has been welcomed and supported by the secretary general of the United National Independence Party of Zambia, the general secretary of the People's Unity Party of Tunisia, the general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Lebanon, the general secretary of the Communist Party of Portugal, the chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Denmark, the general secretary of the Central Committee of the new Communist Party of Great Britain, the general secretary of the Socialist Party of Turkey and heads of political parties of many other countries.

Pakistani Parties Support Proposal

SK1102052991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0440 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 11 (KCNA)—We fully support the proposal put forward by the great leader President Kim Il-song for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea. This was declared by more than 20 political parties and social organisations including the Pakistan People's Party, the Pakistan Socialist Party, the Pakistan Federation of Trade Unions, the Pakistan Peace Council and the Students Federation of Pakistan in a joint statement released on January 31. Pointing out that President Kim Il-song set forth the proposal that reunification be realised by means of confederation on the basis of one nation, one state, two systems and two governments, the statement said: Already long ago, the great leader President Kim Il-song laid down a peace package for adopting a nonaggression declaration between the North and the South and signing a peace agreement between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States. This is a very realistic measure. The U.S. imperialists stubbornly oppose the peaceful reunification of Korea to maintain their military domination and economic plunder of South Korea, contrary to the desire of the entire Korean people for reunification. We strongly demand that the United States stop clinging to the policy of strength and, for peace and reunification of Korea, renounce its hostile policy toward the DPRK, withdraw its nuclear arms and other destruction weapons and troops from South Korea at once and sign a peace agreement with the DPRK.

Two ROK Seamen Reportedly 'Defect' North

SK0902095191 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0910 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Two South Korean crewmen have defected to the northern half of the Republic by boat via the West Sea.

At a time when the South Korean people are increasingly waging an anti-U.S., antifascist struggle for independence, democracy and the reunification of the fatherland and are increasingly admiring the northern half of the Republic with each passing day, at around 0900 today [0000 GMT], Deputy Captain Yi Son-pil, 25, and crewman Kim Kon-hui, 25, defected to the northern half of the Republic aboard the (Sungyong) boat via the West Sea.

Their hometowns are respectively Chongjung-ri, (Kunung)-myon, Taean County, South Chungchong Province, and Chijung-ri, (Toha)-myon, Kohung County, South Cholla Province. They said that for a long time, they had been disillusioned with the absurd South Korean society, where the working masses' freedom and human rights are ruthlessly violated by the U.S. imperialists' colonial rule and traitor No Tae-u's antipopular policies and where money determines everything. They had been boundlessly yearning for the North's socialism in which the masses-centered policies for the masses' welfare, mapped out by the great President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il, are carried out and in which the masses, as the masters of the country, are enjoying happiness. They also said that they left Anhung Port, South Chungchong Province, on the night of 7 February. They secretly crossed the South Korean puppets' tightly secured fishing restriction line. They went northward into the territorial waters of the North. Finally, they entered the embrace of the northern half of the Republic, which they had longing for. In entering the embrace of the northern half of the Republic, they could not refrain from expressing their joy over the fact that their hope had been fulfilled. They are under the care of pertinent authorities.

North Proposes 4th Sports Talks on 12 February

SK1102042391 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0300 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Telephone message from Kim Hyong-chin, head of the North's delegation to North-South sports talks, to the senior member of the South's delegation, on 11 February]

[Text] To Chang Chung-sik, senior member of the South side's delegation to the North-South sports talks:

As you may know, the opening day of the 41st World Table Tennis Championship Contest, in which the two sides have agreed to participate with a single team, is approaching.

Whether or not we will be able to form a single team and have it participate in the 41st World Table Tennis Championship and the Sixth World Youth Soccer Championship depends on the unsettled issue of how the two sides resolve the question of training the single team and of deciding who will head it.

Given the shortage of time, the situation that is developing in South Korea, and the basic goals of the single team's formation and participation, we think that the only way to resolve the question is to have the members of the single table tennis team trained somewhere other than the North or the South for a change of scenery, and to have the single team led jointly by the two sides.

On this subject, we gave enough explanations and advice to your side during the third round of talks to make you understand.

In your telephone message on 8 February, however, your side not only failed to express any positive attitude but also ignored our proposal for holding the fourth talks before 12 February, and then committed an inappropriate act of provoking our side. Such behavior forces us to wonder whether your side is willing to participate in the 41st World Table Tennis Championship with a single team or not.

Participation of the North and the South in a single team in the upcoming major international sporting events is what has already been agreed upon between the two sides, and is a call from all the people in the country that cannot be abandoned unheeded.

The delegations of our two sides have no other duty than to successfully form a single team and realize its participation.

Proceeding from such a stand, expressing our hope that your side will accept our reasonable proposal at the fourth round of the North-South sports talks, we inform you of our intention to go to the House of Peace in your side at the Panmunjom on 12 February for the fourth round of talks.

[From] Kim Hong-chin, head of the North side's delegation to the North-South sports talks

[Dated] 11 February 1991

Dailies Cite Examples of 'Corruption' in South

SK0902050791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0447 GMT 9 Feb 91

["Papers Flail No Tae-u Ruling Group's Irregularities"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang February 9 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN and MINJU CHOSON today brand the No Tae-u ruling group as the mastermind of corruption and irregularities although it has never let a chance pass by without crying for "social justice," "liquidation of corruption" and "uprightness."

The news analyst of NODONG SINMUN says:

A big stir has been created in South Korea as scandals have been brought to light. Among them is the "case of privileged distribution" of housing lot in Suso District, Seoul: The puppet Seoul City Hall, at the instructions of "Chongwadae," sold land of Suso District in Seoul to 26 housing associations at cheap prices to let them make big profits, although it had stated that the land could not be distributed to the housing associations because housing construction was impossible in the land. Another scandal is the "case of misappropriation of preferential trade fund" in which "Chongwadae" and the "Security Planning Board" swallowed up a huge amount of preferential trade fund raised by the trading association of South Korea.

There have also been brought to light a "case of overseas tour of lawmakers" involving three "lawmakers" including one from the "Democratic Liberal Party" who made pleasure tours overseas with bundles of money put into their pockets by South Korea's auto industry association, a "case of illegal entrance into universities" of children of the privileged classes and the fact that an uncle of No Tae-u received a huge sum of money with a promise to solve a land scandal.

These cases exposed to the public this year are part of the irregularities and corruption of the No Tae-u group.

This shows that "Chongwadae" where No Tae-u is seated is the mastermind of irregularities and that the "sixth republic" is corrupt.

The No Tae-u group is working to rake up political funds through swindles and prolong the fascist dictatorial power and line its own pocket with it.

The irregularities common in South Korean society cannot be liquidated so long as the corrupt "regime" is left intact.

The news analyst of MINJU CHOSON stresses that the South Korean people will never pardon the No Tae-u group, the mastermind of irregularities.

Minister's Resignation Reported

SK0902045491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0439 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 9 (KCNA)—No Tae-u Friday made the "Chongwadae secretary" in charge of culture and sports tender his resignation, bearing responsibility for the "case of privileged distribution" of housing lot in Suso District, Seoul, when voices demanding a probe into the truth behind the case are ringing ever louder from all quarters of South Korea, according to a radio report from Seoul.

This fact shows that the scandal is deeply connected with "Chongwadae" and No Tae-u is trying to lull the public accusation and evade his responsibility for it.

It is not without reason that the political and public circles of South Korea brand the case as "an aggregate crime of the ruling group," "a scandal of the 'sixth republic' more despicable than that of the 'fifth republic'" and demand that a probe be made into the case and those involved in it up to the "Chongwadae" group be punished sternly.

It is needless to say that the South Korean people will not remain an onlooker to the crafty ruse of No Tae-u to hush up the case by dismissing a "secretary."

Statement Criticizes U.S. Human Rights Report

SK1002142091 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1300 GMT 10 Feb 91

[Press statement (tamhwa) by a spokesman for the DPRK Foreign Ministry released on 10 February—read by announcer]

[Text] In an annual human rights report released on 1 February, the U.S. State Department found fault with human rights in many countries of the world, and viciously found fault with our country.

In groundlessly finding fault with our country, the United States babbled about the human rights situation. This is a groundless falsehood and an open political provocation designed to slander and harm us.

This human rights report by the U.S. State Department propagandized that human rights are violated in our country, which is nothing but a foolish farce designed to tarnish the image of our Republic by telling whopping lies. The U.S. State Department completely distorted reality in our country and babbled that human rights are violated in it. This clearly exposes its intention of deliberately intensifying confrontation between the DPRK and the United States.

As reality shows, the United States is the worst place for human rights violations. Not even basic human rights are guaranteed today in the United States, and as a result 7 million jobless people are wandering the streets and millions of people are trembling outside in the cold because they have no house in which to live. Further, the United States is a den of international drug criminals. The United States is also a place where people cannot live freely even for a moment because murders and robberies run rampant. Last year, 23,000 people were killed and approximately a million people are detained because of all sorts of rampant crimes. How can the United States say something about the human rights situation of other countries?

In particular, according to its style of maintaining order by taking forcible measures, the United States violently interferes in the internal affairs of other countries and unhesitatingly invades sovereign states by using force. What is taking place in front of mankind clearly shows that what destroys the people's peaceful and stable lives as well as inflicts disasters and sufferings on them is the United States, which talks about human rights as if it were chanting prayers.

The United States terms countries that do not yield to it as human rights violators. This type of behavior will in no way affect us. The United States must discard its bad habit of recklessly interfering in countries that incur its displeasure, reversing black and white, and committing arrogant acts. No matter what tricks it may use to slander our Republic, the United States will in no way be able to tarnish the genuine appearance of our socialism, which gives the people true freedoms and rights and which provides them with happy lives.

We resolutely denounce the U.S. imperialists for committing the reckless act of groundlessly finding fault with our country under the pretext of the so-called human rights violations and sternly reject it.

10 February 1991, Pyongyang

U.S. Navy Spokesman's Remarks on North Denounced

SK1102034091 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1300 GMT 10 Feb 91

[Text] Just at a time when the war in the Gulf has entered a grave stage, the U.S. authorities are perpetrating more vicious smear maneuvers against us. According to a report, on 9 February a spokesman of the U.S. Navy made ill-boding remarks by talking about the possibility of disputes taking place in other regions outside the Gulf region, laying the blame on us. He raved that while the U.S. military concern is concentrated on other regions, the possibility of attack from the North becomes a matter of natural concern for the United States.

His raving is not only one of the U.S. authorities' wicked and heinous acts, aimed at diverting the world's attention away from the criminal maneuvers which they are perpetrating in the Gulf, but is also an unscrupulous provocative and vicious smear against our Republic. It is none other than the U.S. imperialists who, exploiting the outbreak of the war in the Gulf, are attempting to inspire North-South confrontation and to create the danger of a new war in Korea by staging the provocative Team Spirit-91 joint military exercise together with the South Korean puppets, while clamoring about the nonexistent threat of a southward invasion.

Early in January this year we not only put forward a new, broad-scale proposal to arrange a precondition for peace of the country and its peaceful reunification, but also advanced the question of adopting a nonaggression declaration as a practical measure for alleviating tension and have made all possible efforts for its realization. This is an already known fact. In spite of this, since the war in the Gulf broke out the U.S. military authorities have been blowing a silly bugle against the Republic by continuously spreading the fabricated rumor as if we were going to stage an attack. This is an intentional and hackneyed provocation designed to justify their new war provocation commotion, to mislead world public opinion, and thus to sling mud at our Republic's dignity and prestige.

Continued Denunciations of 'Team Spirit' Exercises

South Against Unleashing War

SK1102111091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1031 GMT 11 Feb 91

["'Wartime System' in South Korea and 'Team Spirit'"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang February 11 (KCNA)—There is no assurances that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean ruling group who declared "an emergency wartime system" in South Korea and massed huge aggression forces in the area adjacent to the Military Demarcation Line from overseas will not provoke a war against the North under some pretext while staging "Team Spirit" war exercises, says NODONG SINMUN today.

The author of the article notes:

After the Gulf war broke out the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets announced the plan of the "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises while kicking up an unprecedented row, declaring "an emergency wartime system" and placing the U.S. forces and the puppet army in "an emergency mobilisation posture" in South Korea with outcries over fictitious "threat from the North".

From the beginning of the year we put forward epoch-making proposals to create preconditions for peace in the country and its peaceful reunification including the adoption of a nonaggression declaration and are making every possible effort to carry them into practice. There is no danger of "invasion from the North" at all on the Korean peninsula.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets, however, are engaging themselves in military rackets against us, spreading rumors that the attack from the North is imminent. This is very ill-boding development that must not go unnoticed.

The South Korean puppets are raising a hue and cry over the fictitious "threat from the North," persistently opposing our proposal for the adoption of a nonaggression declaration whereby the North and South would promise not to fight each other and starting the "team spirit" joint military exercises together with the U.S. imperialists this year, too, the stop of which we had repeatedly demanded. They seek in this to invent a pretext to provoke a war.

Some time ago the puppet minister of national defence said the troop dispatch to the Gulf war was aimed to enhance the "international prestige" of South Korea and lay a "foundation of guarantee from friendly states for collective security and retaliation in the event of contingency".

His utterances reveal that the puppets intend to ignite a war against the North and draw the U.S.-led imperialist allied forces into it as the Syngman Rhee puppet clique did in the 1950s.

We are following with sharp vigilance the "Team Spirit 91" war game now going on under a virtual wartime system.

If the warmaniacs dare unleash a war, they will have to pay dearly for it.

Daily Warns of Starting 'New War'

SK1002100291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0826 GMT 10 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 10 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists must discontinue at once the "Team Spirit" joint manoeuvres that increase tensions and create a danger of war, if they truly want peace and stability on the Korean peninsula. Should the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities ignite a new war against the North, ignoring our warnings, they would have to pay dearly for it.

This warning was served by NODONG SINMUN Sunday in an article headlined "U.S. Imperialists' Aggressive Policy Toward Korea and 'Team Spirit'".

The author says:

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities have launched the "Team Spirit 91" war game at last, defying the unanimous protest and opposition of the Korean people and the world peaceloving people.

This is a downright challenge to us who are making sincere efforts to remove the danger of war, guarantee a durable peace and create preconditions for peaceful reunification on the Korean peninsula. And it is an unpardonable criminal act aggravating North-South confrontation and driving the situation to the brink of war.

The U.S. imperialists attach very weighty importance to the "Team Spirit" in their preparations for a war against the North. It is a massive nuclear war exercise against the North either in view of the armed forces and means of war involved in it or in view of its character and content.

That the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities started the "Team Spirit" exercises this year again, turning their backs on our fair and aboveboard proposals, indicates that they set greater store by this provocative war game than by North-South dialogue.

The current "Team Spirit" war game is all the more dangerous because it was started when the South Korean ruling group was inciting North-South confrontation and increasing tensions with the outbreak of the Gulf war.

This is a premeditated move on the part of the U.S. imperialists to provoke another war of aggression against the North on the Korean peninsula. If a new war against the North is provoked by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities, it will immediately develop into a nuclear war and its flames will instantly spread outside Korea. Then not only the Korean people but also the Asian and world people will suffer a nuclear scourge.

Facts show that the U.S. imperialists are rushing headlong along the road of war, not peace, still clinging to the policy of a showdown of strength on the Korean peninsula, though they are noisily trumpeting about an end of the cold war and the advent of an era of peace.

It is utterly anachronistic for the U.S. imperialists to make haste with the preparations for a war against the North, staging the "Team Spirit" joint manoeuvres.

They should rectify their aggressive Korean policy to conform to the demand and desire of the Korean and world people and the trend of the times.

Termed 'Open Challenge' to Peace

SK0902103091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1000 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 9 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today brands the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises being waged by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean ruling group this year again as an open challenge to the Korean people desirous of peace on the Korean peninsula and its peaceful reunification and to the world peaceloving people.

The article notes:

We demanded that the U.S. and the South Korean authorities discontinue the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises, mindful of their negative effect on North-South dialogue, and made a flexible proposal that they stop it temporarily at least while North-South high-level talks are under way, if they cannot give it up.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities claim that the "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises will not adversely affect North-South dialogue and the situation on the Korean peninsula, harping on the "reduction of the scale" and "shortening of the period" of the war game.

This is nothing but a poor excuse to cover up their anti-peace, anti-reunification, anti-dialogue nature.

The "Team Spirit" is, to all intents and purposes, a nuclear attack exercise for pre-emptive strike at our Republic in accordance with the U.S. imperialists' aggressive Korean strategy.

The aggressive nature of the "Team Spirit" war game cannot be concealed with the empty talk about "reduction of scale" and "shortening of period".

It is clear to everyone that the U.S. imperialist aggressors and the South Korean ruling group who declared a virtual "wartime system" in South Korea and massed huge aggression forces in the area near the Military Demarcation Line may provoke a war against the North while staging the military exercises.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities can never flee from the grave responsibility for leading North-South dialogue to a crisis again and bringing the tensions on the Korean peninsula to the extreme pitch by starting the "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises.

The "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises laying obstacles in the way of the cause of peace on the Korean peninsula and its peaceful reunification must be stopped unconditionally, stresses the article.

International Groups Demand End

SK0902105391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1017 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 9 (KCNA)—Foreign public denounced the "Team Spirit" military exercises being staged by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities.

The Union of Young Communists of Cuba in a statement on February 4 branded the "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises as moves going against the noble purpose of the Korean people for the peaceful reuinification of the country, a grave act of foiling the North-South dialogue and a direct threat to the security of the DPRK.

The Cuban young people express solidarity with the fraternal Korean youth and reaffirm their full support to the struggle of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea to accomplish the cause of national reunification under the unfurled banner of socialism, the statement said.

A statement of the Japan Committee for Supporting the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea February 4 demanded the United States immediately stop all the dangerous military actions in Korea.

The National Union of Ghana Students in a recent statement strongly condemned the "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises, considering them criminal acts to impede the North-South dialogue, heighten the situation and increase the danger of war on the Korean peninsula and dampen the growing sentiments of the South Korean people for national reunification.

We demand the United States and the South Korean authorities stop the "Team Spirit 91" at once, the statement said.

Japanese-Korean Group Comment

SK1002084691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0809 GMT 10 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 10 (KCNA)—The Japan-Korea Cultural Interchange Association and a Japanese military analyst denounced the aggressive "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises being staged by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities.

The Japan-Korea Cultural Interchange Association in a statement February 6 said it is clear to everyone that the "Team Spirit 91" is a dangerous military action which is being held as part of the U.S. imperialists' Asia-Pacific strategy to keep hold on South Korea as a nuclear forward base.

The statement strongly demanded that the United States and the South Korean authorities stop at once the "Team Spirit 91" manoeuvres and seek a sincere dialogue for detente and peace in Korea.

Haruo Fujii [name as received], a Japanese military analyst, published an article in CHOSON SINBO February 7 exposing the aggressive nature of the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises.

He said:

Although the United States advertised the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises as "annual defensive manoeuvres", it has never staged a defensive exercise. The tactics employed by the United States in attacking Iraq is the offensive tactics acquired by it through the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises.

Noting that the purpose of the United States in the "Team Spirit" war game is to threaten North Korea through the massive joint military exercises on the Korean peninsula and furthermore, provoke a war, he stressed that the military exercises are a war game little short of a real war.

Indian Communist Party Comments

SK0902044791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0433 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 9 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Communist Party of India recently issued a statement denouncing the "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities.

The statement says:

The peaceloving people are deeply concerned over the "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises of aggressive nature that are being staged at a time when North-South high-level talks for the peaceful reunification of Korea are under way.

We appeal to the world people who love peace to lift up louder voices of justice against the "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises.

The statement notes that the aggressive war game is laying a grave obstacle in the way of the peaceful reunification of Korea and extends full support to and solidarity with the Korean people in their cause of national reunification.

Venezuelan Party Opposes Exercises

SK1002084591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0806 GMT 10 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 10 (KCNA)—A solidarity message came to the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea from Guillermo Garcia Ponce, general secretary of "New Alternative" of Venezuela, on February 5 in support of the new proposal for national reunification put forward by the great leader President Kim Il-song in his new year address.

We, in the name of the Venezuelan parliamentary group for friendship with the DPRK and "New Alternative" of Venezuela, express support to the new proposal for national reunification put forward by His Excellency President Kim Il-song in his new year address, which is positively conducive to the cause of the world peace, the message said.

We denounce the U.S. decision to stage another "Team Spirit" war game for an aggressive purpose against the Korean people and demand the removal of the U.S. military bases from South Korea, the message stressed.

Proposed U.S. Military Budget Draws Criticism

SK1102064791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0523 GMT 11 Feb 91

["War Budget of Nuclear Maniacs"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang February 11 (KCNA)—The Bush administration presented to Congress a bill envisaging military appropriations to the tune of 295.2 billion dollars for the next fiscal year. This is a token of the unsatiable aggressive ambition and war preparations of the U.S. imperialists, says NODONG SINMUN today.

Noting that the United States foresees a cost of 28 billion to 86 billion dollars in the Gulf war, the news analyst goes on: The military expenditure of the United States for next fiscal year, with the spendings in the Gulf war taken into account, is of a stupendous size never seen in any fiscal year.

The purpose of this ridiculous military expenditure of the United States is to gratify its aggressive desire to control the world.

The United States is quite loud-mouthed about the end of the cold war and an era of peace. But, in actuality, it is aggravating the cold war and stepping up preparations for a "hot war".

This is well illustrated by the continued provocative military exercises such as "Team Spirit" joint manoeuvres, test nuclear war against the North, and aerial nuclear preemptive strike exercises. The "Team Spirit 91" shows that the U.S. imperialists are attempting to ignite another war of aggression on the Korean peninsula, with the outbreak of the Gulf war. The U.S. imperialists are the maniacs of the policy of strength who think that everything will go as they wish, if they brandish it. But the more persistent they become in the war adventures, the faster their destruction is precipitated, warns the commentary.

Countries Warned of 'Crafty Method of Imperialism'

SK0902113091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1022 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 9 (KCNA)—The imperialists' "aid" and "cooperation" is very dangerous "poisonous needles" to economically buy over the developing countries, squeeze the maximum profits from them if we force them to reorganize their political and economic systems to facilitate imperialist domination, stresses NODONG SINMUN today in a signed article entitled "'Aid and Cooperation' of Imperialism Is Means of Plunder and Domination."

The article quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as saying in his New Year address:

"In the name of 'aid' and 'cooperation' the imperialists are forcing the independent developing countries to reorganize their political and economic systems to facilitate imperialist domination."

The article goes on:

It is a habitual crafty method of imperialism to meddle with the affairs of other countries and subjugate and plunder them in the name of "aid" and "cooperation."

"Aid and cooperation" of imperialism is a tool for interference in and plunder of the developing countries and a trap for domination and subjugation.

First of all, the imperialists use "aid" and "cooperation" as a means of economically subjugating and plundering the developing countries.

They invest a colossal amount of capital in the developing countries caught up with financial difficulties. In this course, they seize the economic arteries of the developing countries, obstruct their building of the foundation of the national economy and multi-faceted development of the economy and force them to produce only primary products.

The imperialists intensify exploitation of the developing countries by raising the prices of their own industrial products and sharply slashing the prices of raw materials and fuel of the developing countries on the international markets.

They make big profits by processing the primary products, which they import from the developing countries at cheap prices, at second and third stages and sell them at high prices.

They exploit the developing countries by means of giving debts to them. For instance, the imperialists grant loans to the developing countries in the name of "cooperation" but at a high rate of interest.

Economic dependence inevitably leads to political dependence.

Having seized the key economic sectors of the developing countries through "aid" and "cooperation," the imperialists meddle with their internal affairs and force political obedience to them. They even force the developing countries to change their social systems. The imperialists openly urge some developing countries to abandon the anti-imperialist independent stand and, in case they do not yield, resort to economic blockade without hesitation to stifle these countries through trade sanctions and suspension of "aid" and "cooperation."

The effective way for the developing countries to get rid of the economic dependence on the imperialists and achieve independence and self-sufficiency is to expand and develop South-South cooperation on the principle of collective self reliance. The imperialists' crafty policy of "aid" and "cooperation" is bound to go awry in the face of the united struggle of the people of the developing countries.

Chinese Ministry Spokesman Supports Kim Il-song

SK1102060491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0508 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Beijing February 11 (KCNA)—A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of China on February 9 released a statement supporting the New Year address of the great leader President Kim Il-song for 1991. He said: In his New Year address President Kim Il-song summed up the successes made by the Korean people last year by upholding the party's leadership and adhering to socialism and indicated the orientation of achieving a peaceful reunification of the country. The Chinese people are rejoiced over the achievements of the Korean people and sincerely wish them greater success in the future.

Chongnyon Meeting Held in Tokyo 7-8 Feb

SK1102054191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0450 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo February 9 (KNS-KCNA)—The 3rd meeting of the 15th Central Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) was held at the Korean Hall in Tokyo on February 7 and 8.

Han Tok-su, chairman of the Central Standing Committee of Chongnyon, delivered a report under the title "Let All the Functionaries and Compatriots Firmly Unite and Effect New Innovations in the Patriotic Work of Chongnyon Including the Work for National Reunification". Stressing that all the compatriots should wage a powerful reunification movement to realise the new proposal for national reunification advanced by the great leader Marshal Kim Il-song in his New Year address, he said that big efforts should be directed to the adoption of a nonaggression declaration between the North and the South and the national agreement on reunifying the country by means of founding the democratic confederal republic of Koryo this year in keeping with the desire of the entire nation to make 1995 a year of the country's reunification at any cost.

He stressed the need to organise a powerful mass movement of all the compatriots for a political consultative conference for national reunification and the 2nd pan-Korean meeting on the threshold of August 15.

All the functionaries of Chongnyon and compatriots will fight resolutely against the new anti-DPRK moves including the criminal "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises of the U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u ruling group and the anti-national crime in dispatching South Korean puppet troops to the Gulf area and wage a more active movement for an early normalisation of the DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations in conformity with the situation of the present day when full-dress talks between the governments of the DPRK and Japan started, Han Tok-su stressed.

Then speeches were made.

A letter to Marshal Kim Il-song was adopted at the meeting.

Friendship Association Members Depart for Vietnam

SK0902105491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1038 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 9 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Korea-Vietnam Friendship Association led by Yi Kwan-su, vice-chairman of the Education Commission and chairman of the association, left here today for Vietnam.

It was seen off at the airport by O Mun-han, vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, and Vietnamese Ambassador to Korea Nguyen Van Trong.

Kim Chong-il's Birthday Celebrated in India

SK1102052691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0445 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 11 (KCNA)—The Chuche Idea Study Society of Aligarh and the Society for the Study of the Chuche Philosophy of Agra University in India held celebration meetings on the occasion of the birthday of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il. The reporters and speakers noted that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is a great thinker and theoretician and an outstanding leader who has developed and enriched the chuche idea and indicated the theory of socialist construction and strategy and tactics of the anti-imperialist struggle. He is adding shine to the peculiar socialist system of Korea by wisely leading the Workers' Party and People of Korea, they stressed. They wished Comrade Kim Chong-il good health and long life.

New Ambassador to Republic of Pakistan Appointed

SK1102060891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0512 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 11 (KCNA)—Choe Su-il was appointed DPRK ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, according to a decree of the Central People's Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

New Austrian Ambassador Arrives in Pyongyang

SK1102055891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0518 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 11 (KCNA)—Dietrich Bukowski, new Austrian ambassador e.p. to Korea, arrived here on February 10 by train.

Compilation of KCNA Press Reviews Published

For 9 February

SK0902053391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0453 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 9 (KCNA)—Papers here today frontpage news that the New Year address of the great leader President Kim Il-song was reported by foreign mass media.

Appearing in NODONG SINMUN is a report that "The Workers' Party of Korea Organizes and Guides All the Victories of Our People", a work of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, was carried by an Italian magazine.

The paper devotes nearly one whole page to an article headlined "Our Party and People Are a Steel-Like One Flesh."

Highlighted in the press is econews about innovations effected in production by workers in North Hamgyong Province and brisk farming preparations on co-op farms.

Published in papers is a letter sent by the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea, the C.C., the Korean Social Democratic Party and the C.C., the Chondoist Chongu Party to the Party for Peace and Democracy, the Democratic Party and the Popular Party of South Korea on the matter of contacts between representatives of political parties in the North and the South.

It is reported in the press that the prime minister of the Kingdom of Nepal met with a DPRK delegation and the secretary general of the Burundi Party of National Unity and Progress with the DPRK ambassador to his country.

Papers inform the readers of a DPRK book, photo and handicraft exhibition held in France.

Under the titles "Let Us Check and Frustrate the New War Provocation Manoeuvres of the U.S. Imperialists and South Korean Puppet Clique!" and "Strongly Denounce the 'Team Spirit 91' Joint Military Exercises" papers carry articles and voices at home and abroad condemning this war game.

The U.S. imperialist aggressors staged an aerial electronic warfare exercise for a surprise attack on the North, says NODONG SINMUN.

Papers comment on the corruption of the South Korean group in power.

South Korean news columns of the press include reports that more than 10,000 workers of the Daewoo shipyard in Koje started a general strike and workers of the Hanbo coal mine in Taebaek boycotted work to push their demand for the guarantee of the right to existence.

NODONG SINMUN reports that chairman of the overseas headquarters of "Pomminnyon" Yun I-sang made public an article to the ten million overseas compatriots.

"South Korea Is Biggest Nuclear Forward Base in the Far East" is the title of a MINJU CHOSON article.

A brisk campaign requesting the establishment of DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations is going on throughout Japan, says NODONG SINMUN.

Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Council of State and president of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, at a meeting for the summing up of the work of the Havana Provincial party committee referred to the question of the nation's food program, reports the paper.

According to the press, the spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of China denounced the U.S. interference in her internal affairs and TASS issued a news analyst's article on the U.S. "star wars" program.

NODONG SINMUN reports that the Communist Party of the Soviet Union called for saving the grave situation created in the country, the spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the USSR said that there can be no linkage between the situation in the Gulf region and that of the Baltic coast, the Angolan president laid bare the UNITA clique's moves to wreck peace, the president of Sri Lanka outlined the internal policy and the general secretary of the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania called for adherence to the principles of socialism and self-reliance.

The paper conveys economic briefs from Iran, Laos, Indonesia and Malaysia.

The U.S.-led multinational forces continue air raid on Iraq and Iraq stubbornly resists it, says the press.

NODONG SINMUN reports that the prime minister of Malaysia called for an immediate halt to the Gulf war.

"'Aid and Cooperation' of Imperialism Is Means of Plunder and Domination" is the title of a NODONG SINMUN article.

In a commentary MINJU CHOSON notes that the United States has increased the expenditure for the adventurous "star wars" program in the new fiscal year.

For 11 February

SK1102065191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0529 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 11 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries a message sent by President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea congratulating President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the 12th anniversary of the victorious Islamic revolution in Iran and a message sent by him to President Sam Nujoma of the Republic of Namibia in reply to his solidarity message supporting the DPRK's new proposal for national reunification.

Appearing in the daily is a message of greetings sent by Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee [CC] of the Workers' Party of Korea, to Joao Bernardo Vieira upon his reelection as secretary general of the African Party for Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde.

Given in the daily is an account of a South Hamgyong Provincial meeting held to vow to thoroughly implement the recent teachings given by the great leader President Kim Il-song.

A Cameroonian newspaper carried a work of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il "The Workers' Party of Korea Organizes and Guides All the Victories of Our People", says the daily.

The daily prints the fourth installment of an article on the sincere dedication of our people to the Mt. Paektu secret camp where the native home of Comrade Kim Chong-il is located.

Carried in the daily is a message of greetings sent by the C.C., the WPK to Achille Occhetto on his election as general secretary of the Italian Democratic Party of the Left.

The daily comes out with a political essay entitled "pride of the times" which stresses that our people today are a people who live and struggle in a revolutionary way with boundless pride of our era, the era of the Workers' Party.

The daily editorially calls for intensifying the educational work for firmly equipping the party members and other working people with our party's ideas, theories and policies.

Econews of the daily includes a report that a caustic soda factory will be built in Sinuiju and a report on the increased production of varieties of consumer goods.

The daily informs the readers that the Mozambican president and the secretary-general of the United National Independence Party of Zambia met the DPRK ambassadors to their countries and Nelson Mandela met the DPRK ambassador to Namibia.

Printed in the daily is a statement issued by a spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the DPRK denouncing the U.S. State Department for maliciously taking issue with the DPRK over "human rights violation" while talking baloney about the situation of human rights in different countries around the world.

The daily gives an account of a DPRK book, photo and handicraft exhibition held in Portugal.

Given in the daily is an account of the third meeting of the 15th Central Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) discussing the matter of launching an all-compatriot reunification movement to realise the new proposal for national reunification.

The South Korean HANGYORE SINMUN criticized the U.S. criminal scheme to cover the cost of the Gulf war at the expense of others, says the daily.

It carries an article headlined "'Wartime System' and 'Team Spirit' in South Korea" and conveys voices at home and abroad demanding an immediate halt to the "Team Spirit 91" joint manoeuvres.

Echoed in the paper are voices of foreign public circles and personages supporting the DPRK's proposal for reunification through confederation.

The paper reports that a joint gathering of the army and people was held in Beijing on the occasion of Lunar New Year of 1991, the Zimbabwean president called for peace in the Middle East, a sounding rocket was launched in China, a new school semester began in Namibia enabling all the children to study, and commodity prices are soaring in Hungary.

It dedicates an article to the 12th anniversary of the victorious Islamic revolution in Iran.

In a commentary the daily sheds revealing light on the criminal aim of Bush's plan of military spending for the next fiscal year which was submitted to U.S. Congress.

The paper informs the readers of the Gulf war.

South Korea

Editorial Urges U.S. To Accept Mediation in Gulf

SK0902115591 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 8 Feb 91 p 2

[Editorial: "United States Must Start Negotiations To End the War"]

[Text] The Gulf war is continuing into its fourth week. Many people in various parts of the world have begun to worry about destruction and casualties. Efforts to mediate a cease-fire or an end to the war are also taking place. This attracts our attention.

War continues to maximize destruction and casualties until one of the two warring sides fulfills its objectives, or until the warring sides agree on a cease-fire or an end to the war. The media coverage of the Gulf war has been totally censored, yet the media have still reported on every detail of the high tech modern weapons being used in this war and how powerful they are. This has made bloody tragedies—caused because of these weapons—a mere sight. Therefore, it is difficult for us to fathom how tragic this war is. Even though antiwar movements in various places of the world have loudly called for restoring peace, over 45,000 sorties, missile attacks, and bombings have been launched day and night. Even a foreign news report has said that 45 percent of Americans feel that tactical nuclear weapons must be used to reduce combat troop casualties in ground warfare. When we think of future massive destruction and casualties, efforts by Iran and some other countries to mediate peace are very noteworthy.

In view of the U.S. objectives of this war and its intentions, however, these efforts certainly have their limits. We can easily guess that before it started the war, the United States must have elaborately mapped out a plan to establish an order and a balance of power in the Middle East region favorable to it. It is speculated that, according to this plan, the United States will decide whether it will systematically destroy Iraq's military and economic power to the extent that Iraq will be unable to rise again, or whether it will destroy Iraq's military and economic power to the extent that Iraq will be unable to threaten its neighboring countries or strive for supremacy in this region or mount a challenge. This means that depending on the war's development and the possibility of a political solution, the United States will decide how intensely to attack and destroy Iraq.

At this time, when preparations are under way for ground warfare—which it has been learned is imminent—it is difficult to predict how serious the destruction and bloodshed will be. If one side uses biochemical weapons, however, and if the other responds with non-conventional weapons, it is clear that casualties will be massive. Therefore, mediatory efforts by some countries are very important, even though they have their limits. It is time that, in response to these mediatory efforts, the United States positively set a timetable for negotiations.

Editorial Urges Role in Postwar Reconstruction

SK1002100491 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 9 Feb 91 p 3

[Editorial: "Is There Any 'Additional Assistance'?"]

[Text] We offered manpower and material support for the Gulf war. Now we feel that we must put ourselves on guard because of the following two points. One is the rapidly expanding scale of the support, and the other is the policy of reorganizing the structure of the U.S. Pacific forces after the reduction of U.S. ground forces in the ROK.

Reports say that in addition to the two ROK offers to pay a total of $500 million in war expenses, the United States, through U.S. Ambassador Donald Gregg, requested our government to provide additional assistance in a third offer. In the meantime, foreign news reported that a specific plan to reorganize U.S. forces deployed in the Pacific area into a maritime mobilization force was submitted to the U.S. Congress and is under its review.

We would like to point out, first of all, that the war expenses we are bearing and the dispatch of non-combat members, including a medical team and transportation corps, are too burdensome and beyond our capabilities in view of our economic situation and the level of our national strength. In spite of this, we accepted such burdens by considering our special relations with the United States and the issue of our participation in reconstructing the Middle East after the war.

We believe that the United States is also aware of our daily aggravated economy. The request for more than $500 million of war expenses to us may arouse people's resistance. We think that if our offering of assistance a third time is inevitable, due to the prolonged Gulf war, the United States should firmly ensure our participation in the plan for reconstructing the Middle East after the war.

If a prior guarantee is not clearly given, the people's opposition would develop even more. In considering this, the government should strive to obtain a positive insurance from the United States.

The ruling and opposition parties in the United States and many European nations appear to be busily working for establishing plans for reconstructing the Middle East.

We have already suffered enormous damage since the Gulf war broke out, and thus we have a deserved international right to compensate for such damage by participating in reconstruction plans. Sacrifices made in the course of contributing to safeguarding international justice and freedom should be compensated without fail.

It is now time for the United States to clearly reveal, before requesting additional support, the role and functions that the ROK would play in reconstructing the Middle East and in the new order that the United States is planning.

The reorganization of the U.S. forces in the Pacific will directly and absolutely influence our security. Of course this is still in the planning stage, and we can hardly grasp how the quantitative and qualitative changes will occur in the course of reorganization. What we hope at this point is that a drastic course that may upset the balance of power in the Pacific area will be avoided.

Another point which we should keenly note is that the weaponry systems of the ROK should be basically upgraded. Our weaponry systems are absolutely dependent upon the United States.

We feel that we are now entitled to request the United States to provide us with ultramodern electronic weaponry systems. We call upon the government to pay attention to this point and to positively negotiate with the United States on this issue.

Task Force on Rebuilding Planned

SK1102024291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0148 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 11 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea may form a task force on rebuilding Iraq and Kuwait after the Gulf war, which will bring a new order in the Middle East, a well-placed government official said Saturday.

"By the time the war ends, there is likely to be an international conference in which the world will discuss how to guarantee lasting peace in the region, to reconstruct war-torn areas and to secure oil resources. As Korea chipped in 500 million U.S. dollars for the allied forces, postwar rebuilding projects have a lot to do with our national interests," the official said on condition of anonymity.

The government will organize a task force to study Korea's participation in rebuilding projects and how to adapt its diplomacy to the postwar world order, he said.

Prime Minister No Chae-pong presided over a meeting on the Gulf crisis Feb. 7 and ordered ministers to think of ways to cope with the postwar situation, particularly from economic and diplomatic perspectives.

Additional Contributions to Gulf Deemed Unlikely

SK1102095391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0715 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 11 (OANA-YONHAP)—Vice Foreign Minister U Chong-ha said Monday that the United States is unlikely to ask its allies for additional contributions to the Gulf war if the land battle proceeds as planned.

The United States was confident the contributions that Japan, Germany and other allied countries had promised would be enough to complete the land war, he said. U returned Saturday from a meeting of contributing nations in the United States.

In the Gulf crisis financial support coordination group meeting in Washington Tuesday, the United States urged that promised contributions be forthcoming at an early date. South Korea has offered 500 million dollars in cash and kind.

The United States officially restated its position that the purpose of the military action is to liberate Kuwait from Iraqi occupation, as supported by the United Nations, he said.

U said the total cost of Kuwait's "liberation" would be 60 billion dollars, though an exact figure was impossible to set as the land war had not begun.

Of the 60 billion dollars, the United States will bear 15 billion dollars and the rest will come from the contributions of gulf front-line states and allied countries.

As of Feb. 5, the allies had spent 6.6 billion dollars of the 14.1 billion dollars promised, he said.

U said he also discussed with U.S. officials, including Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs Robert Kimmitt and Richard Solomon, assistant secretary of state for East Asia and Pacific affairs, Korea's desire to join the United Nations and recent talks between North Korea and Japan on normalizing ties.

Fact-Finding Mission Dispatched to Middle East

SK1102140391 Seoul YONHAP in English 1301 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 11 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government will dispatch a group of working-level officials to Jordan, Egypt and Turkey soon to gather on-the-spot information relating to its financial support for the frontline states, Finance Minister Chong Yong-ui said Monday.

Lunching with U.S. Ambassador to Korea Donald Gregg at a Seoul Hotel, Chong said the group's finding would be used as a basic material in rendering 95 million U.S. dollars in economic development cooperation fund to the frontline countries at an early date, ministry officials said.

South Korea has promised to offer 500 million dollars in cash and kind to the U.S.-led multinational coalition against Iraq and the frontline countries.

Touching on Korea-Soviet relations, Gregg said that he understood economic cooperation between the two countries as a sort of reward for Moscow's efforts to ease tension on the Korean peninsula.

The Seoul Government announced last month that it would extend a 3 billion-dollar economic aid package to Moscow and that a detailed agreement would be signed in March.

The 3 billion dollars, to be given over three years, comprises 1.5 billion dollars in tied loans for Soviet import of Korean raw materials and consumer goods, 500 million dollars in export credits and 1 billion dollars in bank loans.

Gulf War Reportedly Costs Exporters $847 Million

SK1102022591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0144 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 11 (YONHAP)—The Gulf war had cost South Korean exporters 847 million U.S. dollars at the end of January in everything from production cuts to payment arrears, the Korea Foreign Trade Association (KFTA) reported Monday.

The figure, based on a survey of 270 firms exporting to the Middle East, equals 36.6 percent of last year's total shipments to the region, worth 2.313 billion dollars.

If the fightings drag on, the report warned, the 1991 trade deficit will exceed the targeted 9.5 billion dollars at 10.3 billion dollars.

General trading companies suffered a combined loss of 451 million dollars and other firms 396 million dollars, it said.

Damage directly from payment arrears (negotiated) was 7.2 million dollars, negotiation failures (shipped) 10.4 million dollars, shipment failures (produced) 31.5 million dollars, unfinished production 23.7 million dollars and canceled production (contracted) 49.3 million dollars.

Direct damage was tallied at 118.7 million dollars, but the repercussion effect multiplies that to 847 million dollars, the report said.

In direct damage alone, the textile industry was worst hit with losses of 66.5 million dollars, or 55.4 percent of the total, followed by steel and metals with 16.3 million dollars (13.7 percent), other light industry products with 14.3 million dollars (12.4 percent) and electric and electronics with 9.8 million dollars (8.5 percent).

U.S. Air Force Officer To Head UNCMAC

SK1102083291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0758 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 11 (OANA-YONHAP)—U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. James Record was appointed to head the UN component of the Military Armistice Commission (MAC) in an unexpected move Monday, ending months of speculation that a South Korean officer would get the post for the first time.

North Korea was informed of the appointment, which took effect immediately, a UN Command (UNC)spokesman said.

Record's appointment was coordinated with South Korean Defense Ministry and other key ministries, and UNC liaison groups and the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission were notified.

Gen. Robert RisCassi, UNC commander-in-chief, advised Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku of Record's selection as the replacement for Rear Adm. Larry Vogt, who had held the post for two years.

Record is the 56th UNCMAC senior member, who heads a delegation that includes U.S. and allied generals, flag and senior officers.

Local reports earlier said that Maj. Gen. Hwang Won-tak, deputy chief of staff of the Korea-U.S. Combined Forces Command (CFC), was likely to replace Vogt and be the first Korean to be senior UNCMAC member.

North Korea warned Feb. 6 in a radio broadcast that it would be "a criminal act destroying the Armistice Agreement" to name a South Korean as head delegate.

It said South Koreans were ineligible as Seoul was not one of the three signatories to the Armistice Agreement in 1953. The South has argued the Armistice Agreement between the United Nations, China and North Korea does not specify the nationality of MAC members.

At the Korea-United States Security Consultative Meeting (SCM) in November, the two sides agreed in principle to have a Korean as senior UNCMAC member by 1992. The replacement seems to have been delayed in consideration of North Korea's reaction.

North Invites Opposition to Reunification Talks

SK0902014591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0127 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 9 (YONHAP)—North Korea has invited three South Korean opposition parties to visit Pyongyang for talks on unification and peace on the Korean peninsula, pointedly snubbing the ruling party.

The offer was contained in letters to the Party for Peace and Democracy, Democratic Party and People's Party Friday.

Noting it proposed an inter-Korean political conference last month to discuss reunification of Korea, the North said the three parties were welcome to choose an "opportune" time to visit Pyongyang in February or March.

"We cannot but express our disappointment and concern that the North renewed the inter-Korean political parties' meeting, ruling out our ruling party, when the fourth round of inter-Korean high-level talks are at no distant date," National Unification Board Spokesman Choe Pyong-po said Saturday.

The prime ministers' talks are set for Feb. 25 in Pyongyang.

PPD Rejects Offer

SK0902032791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0255 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 9 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea's main opposition Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) Saturday turned down North Korea's invitation to a meeting in Pyongyang to discuss unification and peace on the Korean peninsula, while the president of the splinter Democratic Party (DP) expressed positive response.

North Korea has invited the PPD, DP and the People's Party to visit Pyongyang for talks on unification and peace, excluding the ruling party. Letters containing the offer were delivered to the PPD, Democratic Party and People's Party Friday.

PPD spokesman Pak Sang-chon said it is doubtful if North Korea's invitation of only opposition parties in South Korea, excluding the ruling party, would produce any substantial fruit.

The PPD decided not to accept the invitation because it is very likely to split the South Korean political circle, he said.

In the letter, North Korea said the three parties were welcome to choose an "opportune" time to visit Pyongyang in February or March, noting that it proposed an inter-Korean political conference last month to discuss reunification of Korea.

Meanwhile, Yi Ki-taek, president of the DP, said his party would positively consider accepting the invitation after consulting with other opposition parties and the government.

"The North Korean proposal could be helpful for the promotion of inter-Korean exchange, which is progressing in tune with the international trend of reconciliation and peace," he said.

South Proposes Fourth Round of Sports Talks

SK0802061191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0555 GMT 8 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 8 (YONHAP)—South Korea announced Friday it had a "progressive offer" to make and invited North Korea to hold a fourth round of inter-Korean sports talks at the truce village of Panmunjom on Tuesday.

Chang Chung-sik, chief southern delegate to the talks, made the proposal in a telephone message to his northern counterpart, Kim Hyong-chin.

"We have a progressive offer to make, fully taking into account your position (on forming a single Korean team for international sports meets)," Chang said.

"It was very regretful that the third round of talks made no progress, contrary to people's aspiration that they would be an outlet leading to inter-Korean reconciliation.

"We are ready to make a progressive offer in order to succeed in forming a joint inter-Korean team by any means for the 41st World Table Tennis Championship in April in Japan and the 6th World Youth Championship for the Fifth-Coca Cola Cup in June in Portugal," he said.

The two sides failed to reach any agreement at the third round of talks Jan. 30 due to differences on leadership and training of joint teams for international events.

South Reports Talks Agreement

SK1102080391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0630 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 11 (YONHAP)—North Korea agreed Monday to hold the fourth round of inter-Korean sports talks Tuesday morning at the truce village of Panmunjom.

"Yes, we agree to have it," said Kim Hyong-chin, chief northern delegate to the talks, in a telephone message to his counterpart, Chang Chung-sik.

On Friday, Chang said in a telephone message to Kim that he had a "progressive offer" to make and suggested convening the sports talks to discuss it.

Chang said the South was ready and willing to embrace North Korea's position as far as possible in forming a single Korean team for the 41st World Table Tennis Championships in April in Japan and the 6th World Youth Championships for the Fifa-Coca Cola Cup in June in Portugal.

Liaison Officers Contact for Talks Proposed

SK1102085291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0740 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 11 (YONHAP)—South Korea proposed to North Korea Monday a liaison officers contact concerning the prime ministerial talks on Feb. 18 at 2 p.m. in the truce village of Panmunjom.

In a telephone message to North Korean chief liaison officer Choe Pong-chun, southern chief liaison officer Kim Yong-hwan said he wished to discuss details of the schedule for the fourth round of the prime ministers' talks, slated for Pyongyang Feb. 25-28, and the itinerary of the South Korean delegation.

South and North Korea are to hold a fourth round of sports talks Tuesday morning in Panmunjom to discuss forming single Korean teams to two upcoming international sports events.

Second Fishing Boat Reportedly 'Kidnapped'

SK0902083191 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0800 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Another fishing boat located near Paengnyong Island, the West Sea, has been kidnapped by the North. The Fisheries Administration has announced that the No. 2 (Sungyong) of the Sosan Fisheries Co-operative, South Chungchong Province, which was catching fish this morning on the sea northwest of Paengnyong Island, the West Sea, was kidnapped by a North Korean patrol boat. It was learned that two crewmen were aboard the 10-ton No. 2 (Sungnyong) boat. This is the second kidnapping by the North, following one on 5 February.

Red Cross Seeks Cooperation in First Abduction

SK1102093891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0904 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 11 (YONHAP)—South Korean Red Cross Chairman Kim Sang-hyop asked Yi Song-ho, his opposite number in North Korea, for his cooperation Monday in returning the 160-ton trawler 006-Namhae and its Korean crew, abducted by a North Korean patrol boat.

Kim called on the North Korean Red Cross society to help return the fishing boat and the four fishermen to their families as the boat was privately owned.

The trawler, belonging to a Korea-China joint-venture owned by China, was seized Feb. 4 about 42 kilometers (28 miles) northwest of Paeknyong Island while fishing.

Officials Dismiss Report of Foiled Northern 'Plot'

SK0902023591 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 9 Feb 91 p 2

[Text] A high-ranking Unification Board official yesterday expressed doubt about a Japanese news agency's report that North Korea thwarted an anti-Kim Chong-il plot within its ruling Workers' Party.

He said, "There is high possibility of such a move in North Korean society chiefly due to its ever-worsening economic plight and in particular lack of daily necessities. But we have not heard or picked up any such plot either from North Korean broadcasts or intelligence reports."

He added that the North Korean authorities have recently reinforced control over its people.

An official at Seoul's Naewoe Press, which monitors radio broadcasts by socialist countries with particular focus on North Korea, also said that it has not caught such reports.

Japan's Kyodo News Agency Thursday quoted Radio Pyongyang as reporting that the North's ruling Workers' Party crushed a plot "by anti-revolutionary sectarian elements... hidden within the party" to disrupt the planned transfer of power from President Kim Il-song to his heir-apparent son Chong-il.

Seoul officials think that Kim Chong-il who is 49, has already established his power base in the military as deputy chairman of the party's Military Commission as well as in the Communist Party and has been deeply involved in top policy-making.

Last year, he ordered increased production of 10 key consumer goods including soap and edible oil to improve the living standard of the people.

Daily Views Reported 'Purge'

SK0902063191 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 9 Feb 91 p 3

[Editorial: "We Closely Watch the Purge of the Anti-Heredity Faction"]

[Text] The report that North Korea has purged the force opposing the hereditary system did not give further details. The report that there was a force opposed to Kim Chong-il's heredity itself, however, makes one feel that the situation is unprecedentedly important.

Pyongyang radio did not elaborate on the background of the plot and on how North Korea purged the force involved in the plot but merely propagandized that the Kim Il-song/Kim Chong-il hereditary system has been consolidated.

At a time when even the socialist sphere is pursuing openness, if North Korea only reports that it has "completely eliminated the force that attempted to contaminate the purity of blood lineage," not giving further details of its background, doubts at home and abroad on North Korea's regime will only increase; such a report will not help consolidate its system.

A purge is a product of a struggle for power, and it can win sympathy only when it has a certain justness. Some may assent to the dictatorial regime's resorting to violence to cope with the violent challenge by an anti-heredity force in North Korea. However, the claim of "complete resolution" through a Stalin-type purge of force, against those who are nothing more than mere opponents, deserves people's denunciation.

Opponents even to absolute power can exist, although they do not come to the surface. Under Stalin's one-man dictatorship in the Soviet Union—which was called an incarnation of a purge—figures who called for peaceful coexistence, including Khrushchev, were growing. Even amid conservative communism strengthened by Brezhnev, such reformists as Gorbachev have been reared. In Mao Zedong's one-man world in China, Deng Xiaoping's pragmatism expanded its forces.

North Korea cannot be an exception. In his report at the party congress, Kim Il-song and North Korea's government-patronized media stressed the people's unity from the time the merciless purge of members of the South

Korean Communist Party and the so-called Soviet faction was carried out after the Korean war. We observed, however, that such emphasis on the people's unity is a reflection of internal discord within North Korea. The existence of opponents to Kim Il-song, despite his charismatic dictatorship, means that the lines Kim Il-song is pursuing are unreasonable. The recent purge might have been carried out against those who are opposed to Kim Chong-il's heredity; the fact that there are still opponents to the hereditary system which Kim Il-song and his son, Kim Chong-il, have consolidated for the last 20 years in itself shows the unreasonableness of this system.

We believe that the high-ranking party officials involved in the recent purge, if there are any, must be the people seeking reform and openness. Viewing the recent North Korean power structure, it is noted that the core force linking Kim Il-song, Kim Chong-il and O Chin-u has been strengthening North Korea's system. On the other hand, figures with diplomatic experiences and knowledge on the outside world, and with a reasonable way of thinking, are growing to be the real power holders in the party and the government. There is the considerable possibility that the latter forces have become a threat to the strong former force, just as Liu Shaoqi and Deng Xiaoping were in the later stage of the sixties in China.

If the recent purge means that the later force was defeated in the fight between these two forces, we think that North Korea's history has entered a backward stream. We hope that such turmoil in North Korea will not bring adverse effect in dialogue for reunification, the national aspiration.

Five Applications To Contact Northerners Approved

SK0902063291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0614 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 9 (OANA-YONHAP)—The National Unification Board approved five applications to meet with North Koreans Saturday.

The TONG-A ILBO newspaper was given permission for staff to meet North Koreans in Japan to discuss arrangements for an exhibition in Seoul of cultural relics. The items are stored at a college in Tokyo run by Chongnyon, the pro-Pyongyang Korean residents' organization in Japan.

Professor Yi Kwang-kyu of Seoul National University was told he may meet Kim Sok-hyong, an academician at North Korea's Academy of Social Sciences, to discuss a study of the history and way of life of Koreans in the Soviet Union by South and North Korean scholars.

Yi Pyong-ho, president of the Asia-Pacific Bar Association, got the go-ahead to meet North Korean lawyers to invite them to an international seminar in China.

Also approved were the application of Kang Pyong-nok and 14 others with relatives living in North Korea and the application of Yun Hyong-tu, chairman of the Korean Publishers Association, to exchange book catalogues between South and North Korea.

Kang and his group want to discuss correspondence and reunion in China with their lost kin in North Korea.

State of North's 'Serious Food Shortage' Examined

SK1102052091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0458 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 11 (OANA-YONHAP)—North Koreans are being told to cut back to two meals a day as a serious food shortage worsens and the government tries to buy food grains, a South Korean Government official said Monday.

The main reason for North Korean Prime Minister Yon Hyong-muk's trip to Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia Jan. 29 to Feb. 7 was to negotiate the purchase of rice, said the official, who declined to be identified.

Yon asked Chinese leaders for rice when he was there in November and signed a contract with the Thai Government for 1 million tons of rice over the next two to three years.

Problems are expected, however, because North Korea cannot pay for the rice and wants to barter for it, he said.

Overseas trips by Yon and other high ranking officials are believed to be part of Pyongyang's effort to calm the people, who have suffered from bad harvests since the mid-1970s, he said.

Last year, North Korean grain production fell 12 percent from 1989.

Grain production last year was 4.8 million tons, including 1.93 million tons of rice. This is 1.6 million tons short of the needed 6.4 million tons, the sources said.

Rations have been cut from 700 grams a day for an adult to 547 grams and President Kim Il-song stressed the struggles to save grain and increase production in new year speeches in 1990 and 1991.

North Korea has had rice-saving drives. Soldiers are urged to eat noodles once a day and civilians to have only two meals.

It is exporting rice and importing corn and wheat, which is cheaper, thus increasing the absolute quantity of grain, and has made indirect inquiries to South Korean companies about buying rice.

Quoting a Soviet expert who visited Seoul in November, the official said North Korea needs to import 2 million tons of grain this year. If it fails, there will be widespread famine from the spring.

Government Claims Credit for North-South Trade

SK0902062091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0556 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 9 (YONHAP)—Trade between South and North Korea in January was 8.46 million U.S. dollars, up 560 percent from 1.27 million dollars the same month a year earlier, a government spokesman said Saturday.

The South imported 7.46 million dollars of goods and exported 1 million dollars worth for a trade deficit of 6.46 million dollars, the National Unification Board official said.

The inter-Korean exchanges cooperation fund, set up by the government to compensate firms for losses in trading with the North, contributed to the increase, and trade this year will grow immensely due to the government's active support, the government official said.

South, North To Attend March Berlin Tourism Fair

SK0802024391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0145 GMT 8 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 8 (OANA-YONHAP)—For the first time, South and North Korea will attend the same tourism fair early next month, South Korean tourism officials said Friday.

North Korea has applied to participate in Internationale Tourismus Boerse (ITB) Berlin, which South Korea will be attending for the second year, they said.

ITB is one of the world's foremost tourism exhibitions, held annually in Berlin, an official at the Korea Tourism Promotion Corp. (KNTC) said.

North Korea's participation in the fair March 2-7 indicated it had begun efforts to invite foreign tourists, he said.

It will be North Korea's first time to have a booth at a world tourism show and seems to indicate that the communists are making an effort to attract foreign tourists to ease a foreign exchange shortage, another official said.

North Korea's booth measures 26.4 square meters.

A total of 3,478 companies and agencies from 159 countries will participate in this year's fair, to be held in 25 exhibition halls with a floor space of 264,000 square meters at Messegelande Berlin.

KNTC, with a booth of 138 square meters, is aiming to attract European tourists. The state-run agency will publicize its "Visit Korea in 1994" campaign and also target tourists from Eastern Europe. KNTC has set 1994 as a year to promote Korean tourism.

A "Korea night" will feature a multi-vision display of South Korea's tourist attractions March 4 at Hotel Berlin. KNTC also plans to participate in Pris ITB, a festival of tourism films.

Minister Unaware of Gorbachev's Visit Postponement

SK0902013291 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 9 Feb 91 p 2

[Excerpt] Moscow has not notified Seoul of any change in President Mikhail Gorbachev's plan to visit here, Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok said yesterday.

He said the two governments have discussed the possibility of Gorbachev's Seoul visit through diplomatic channels since the Soviet leader expressed his willingness to visit here as soon as possible during his meeting with President No Tae-u in Moscow in December.

Gorbachev was expected to visit Seoul this spring.

"We will continue the discussion," Yi told reporters in response to a Japanese press report that Gorbachev would skip Seoul during his forthcoming Asia visit, scheduled for April. [passage omitted]

USSR Visits Allowed Without Government Approval

SK0902062791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0559 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 9 (YONHAP)—Another vestige of the cold war will vanish on Sunday, when a law takes effect allowing South Koreans to travel in the Soviet Union for up to 90 days without getting permission from their government first.

The only requirement will be that they report to the foreign minister, according to the revised enforcement decree on guidelines on exchanges and cooperation with communist countries. Under the old rules, Koreans had to obtain permission before all Soviet trips, regardless of duration.

Travelers to China, Vietnam, Laos, Albania, Cambodia and Cuba are still required to gain government permits in advance, but this will also become unnecessary when these countries set up diplomatic relations with Korea.

Seoul and Moscow normalized relations Sept. 30 last year.

Continued Coverage of Visiting Economist's Comments

Calls Perestroyka 'Irreversible'

SK1102060191 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 10 Feb 91 p 4

[Report on interview with Soviet economist Stanislav Shatalin on 8 February in Seoul by reporter Ku Song-chae: "'Perestroyka' Is an Irreversible Trend"]

[Text] "We will not go back to the old authoritarian system."

This is what Stanislav Shatalin, former adviser to Soviet President Gorbachev on economic affairs, said in response to my remark that the Soviet leadership has taken on a hard-line conservatism.

In an interview with CHOSON ILBO on 8 February, Dr. Shatalin, who came to Korea at the invitation of the Institute for International Trade and Management, expressed his opinion on political and economic issues facing the Soviet Union and on issues concerning the Korean peninsula.

"The current political situation in the Soviet Union is very complicated. Such forces as conservatives, radicals, and secessionists are in a fierce feud. Nevertheless, perestroyka has become an irreversible trend. They clash with each other over whether to quicken or slow the pace of the transition toward a free market, but they are not against the reform itself."

Dr. Shatalin is an economist who has authored the 500 days program, an economic reform plan designed to turn the Soviet Union's planned economy into a market-oriented economy within 500 days. The essence of this reform plan is to increase production by privatizing Soviet enterprises within the shortest period of time and liberalizing the prices and sale of houses and land.

President Gorbachev, however, has adopted a less drastic economic reform plan in the face of conservative opposition. After strongly denouncing the bloody crackdown in the Baltic republics in regard to the independence movement last January, Dr. Shatalin resigned from the Presidential Council, a staff office for the Soviet president.

Even after his resignation, Dr. Shatalin still views President Gorbachev in a favorable light.

"Gorbachev is an extraordinarily clever man. He is markedly different from other typical Soviet Communist Party members. He has an open mind, and it is full of new ideas. Now, six years after he took office, he is still challenged by secessionists, conservatives, and reformists alike. If he can be likened to a runner in an 800 meter race he has covered only half the distance, and he has been running all the time without a moment's rest. It is now time for him to take a breath of fresh air before rushing back on the track. He needs renewed energy."

[Ku] There was a report on the possibility of President Gorbachev being ousted by the conservatives.

[Shatalin] The Western press is too far ahead. The West has nothing to gain from driving President Gorbachev into a corner; they should know that the more difficult it makes the situation for him, the less room he has to maneuver.

[Ku] Is the economic reform going well?

[Shatalin] Most of the Soviet people do not understand the transition toward a free economic system. They are not used to the idea of making profit. Not just that, they are strongly attached to the wrong egalitarianism. This is one factor that makes the reform progress a snail's pace.

The conservatives' opposition is no less powerful. The Siberia Natural Resources Development Corporation is dead set against the order of the government determined to privatize it. Even the Resources Committee, a government organization that has been running the corporation, has joined the opposition. The corporation's executive members and the government officials sitting on the committee are afraid of losing their jobs.

Only the Russian Republic led by Boris Yeltsin has adopted Shatalin's 500 days program, and the rest of the Soviet republics have chosen another version called "basic directions for stabilizing the economy and for transition toward a market-oriented economic system." This plan is similar to past failed reform plans in its content and ways worked out to implement the plan.

[Ku] What do you think of the independence movement under way in various other republics?

[Shatalin] Each ethnic group is in rapture over the idea of establishing one's own sovereign state. Virtually every republic demands that it be granted sovereignty.

The Lithuanian Republic is about to ask its people to express their opinion on independence in a referendum. Of course, a policy designed to put such a secessionist call to sleep is wrong. However, I also find the idea of placing a referendum to be wrong. The question of breaking away from the Union should be put to all the other republics of the Soviet Union, not just the Lithuanians.

[Ku] What role can the Soviet Union play in the Korean peninsula question?

[Shatalin] The ROK and the USSR have long regarded each other as foe. With the beginning of an era of reconciliation since Gorbachev took office, the ROK and the USSR have established diplomatic relations and actively are promoting substantial exchanges based on these newly established relations.

In such a peace mood, I think it is imperative for the North and South to improve their relations within the framework of not sacrificing any one side or hurting the other. [end interview]

During his visit to Korea this time, Dr. Shatalin plans to establish with Kyonghui University an international foundation for cooperation among Asian and Pacific countries. Dr. Shatalin, who last January resigned from the Presidential Council, is now secretary general of the Soviet Academy of Sciences in charge of economic affairs. He was ostracized from the Communist Party three times during the Brezhnev era for having called for economic reform. This time around, too, the party's disciplinary committee is reviewing his case on charges of criticizing Gorbachev.

Optimistic of Economic Cooperation

SK0902025291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0140 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 9 (OANA-YONHAP)—Stanislav Shatalin, a former close aide to Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev, said Friday that Korea-Soviet economic cooperation was "as bright as it is interdependent" and that it was possible the abundant resources and high technology of the Soviet Union could be combined with Korea's practical expertise in industry.

The two countries should collaborate where it is feasible before expanding to joint ventures, he said.

Korea's 3 billion U.S. dollars in economic aid would help the Soviet Union a great deal, and the foundation for joint-venture projects should be ready before additional aid is needed, he said.

Given the political situation in the Soviet Union, it is hard to take the best possible road to successful economic reform but it will come about eventually, he predicted.

The architect of Soviet economic reforms, who arrived Monday for a six-day visit, was speaking at a seminar co-sponsored by the Korea Foreign Trade Association and International Trade and Business Institute.

Industrial Exhibition Exchange With China Planned

SK0802032691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0206 GMT 8 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 8 (YONHAP)—South Korea and China will exhibit industrial products in each other's capital this year, a Korea Trade Promotion Corp. (KOTRA) spokesman said Friday.

The China Chamber of International Commerce (CCOIC) will have a show of industrial goods here in May for a week, and KOTRA will hold an exhibition in Beijing in September.

It will be the first time Korea and China have exhibited industrial goods in each other's capital. They lack diplomatic ties but have agreed to open trade offices.

Jiang Yujun [spelling as received], CCOIC's chief of overseas exhibitions, and two officials arrived here Feb. 2 to lease a room at the Korea Exhibition Center (KOEX) in southern Seoul, he said.

Some 100 Chinese companies are expected to display goods in the fields of aviation, vessels, petrochemical products, raw materials, textiles, medicines, foodstuffs and metals.

KOTRA will send officials to Beijing soon to lease space in the China World Trade Center in Beijing, he said. Korean companies will put electronic products, automobiles, textiles and footwear on display.

Fifty Soviet companies exhibited products here in May last year.

Influence Peddling Evident in Suso Housing Scandal

SK0902025591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0202 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 9 (YONHAP)—Former presidential secretary Chang Pyong-cho did influence the outcome of the Suso district housing project, the Board of Audit and Inspection (BAI) said after questioning him for more than seven hours into the early hours of Saturday.

The investigation also continued overnight at the prosecution, which has the Hanbo group's account books. Prosecutors said they have uncovered strong indications of massive tax evasion by Hanbo Group Chairman Chong Tae-su. Chong will be called in soon for questioning and arrested on tax evasion charges once there is clear proof, they said.

The prosecution will also summon Chang while looking for evidence that he took bribes from Hanbo.

BAI officials said Chang, presidential secretary for sports and culture until a few days ago, admitted that a letter he wrote in February asking the Seoul City Government to make its decision on the Suso project in favor of housing cooperatives could have influenced the officials but continues to deny any direct influence peddling.

The officials said they have verified "at least partial" pressure by Chang to sway city hall in its decision.

BAI has also questioned Kim Hak-chae, director of the Seoul City Urban Planning Bureau.

The questioning centered on why Chang handled the Suso case when it was not his responsibility, why he asked city hall to favor the cooperatives and how he came to attend a city meeting Jan. 19 on the Suso housing project.

One official said that after several hours of grueling interrogation Chang began to wilt and appeared to be almost ready to admit to some of the allegations of influence peddling, and that testimony by Seoul City officials and documents indicate his complicity.

Things will be clearer after further questioning of the people present at the Jan. 19 meeting, the official said.

The prosecution investigation is centering on the transfer of land from Hanbo to housing cooperatives disguised as out of court settlements for phony suits, thus escaping heavy taxes, and the alleged use of the profits to lobby government officials.

Heads of the 26 housing cooperatives involved will be summoned for questioning, prosecution officials said. Vice Minister of Construction Kim Tae-yong and other ministry officials will also be summoned and asked to explain the decision to allow the cooperatives to build on land reserved for public housing.

A BAI interim report Friday said this decision was an improper interpretation of the Land Development Law.

The prosecution already has the legal grounds to file charges, one official said, the only remaining decision is who else to question and when.

Prosecution Seeks Arrest Warrants for Legislators

SK1102100591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0733 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 11 (YONHAP)—The Seoul district prosecution asked a court for arrest warrants Monday for Reps. Yi Chae-kun, chairman of the National Assembly Trade and Industry Committee, Yi Ton-man and Pak Chin-ku on charges of bribe-taking and violation of the foreign exchange control law.

The prosecution booked without detention Chong Song-won, president of the Korea Automobile Manufacturers' Association (KAMA), and KAMA Vice President Yim To-chong, who sent the three lawmakers on an overseas trip, on charges of offering bribes.

If the warrants are issued, the three will be arrested.

They are suspected of accepting from KAMA the 10-day tour of North America and 31.68 million won in expenses.

KAMA gave the money in its effort to secure 3 billion won in government funding for an affilate, the general automobile component technology institute, in the budget, the prosecution said.

Most members of the committee told the National Assembly last year that the government no longer supported the institute.

In addition, Chairman Yi is suspected of taking 10,000 dollars, and Yi and Pak 3,000 dollars each from KAMA.

Three Legislators Arrested

SK1102104791 Seoul YONHAP in English 1007 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Excerpt] Seoul, Feb. 11 (YONHAP)—The Seoul District Prosecution arrested three lawmakers Monday for taking bribes and violating the foreign exchange management law in the course of making an overseas trip with money from lobbying groups.

Charged with the law on additional punishment of specific crimes and foreign exchange management law are Reps. Yi Chae-kun, chairman of the National Assembly Trade and Industry Committee, committee members Yi Ton-man and Pak Chin-ku. The two Yi's are from the opposition Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD] and Pak from the Democratic Liberal Party. Arrest warrants were issued at noon Monday, one and half hours after a prosecutor requested them.

"I don't know what to say to the people who elected me, and the party. Since the court will rule this case, I won't make any comment now," Rep. Yi Chae-kun said before being led to the Seoul detention house with the others.

Rep. Pak simply repeated "I'm sorry," while Rep. Yi Ton-man remained tight-lipped.

Rep. Yi Sang-su, chairman of the PPD Human Rights Committee, said the arrests were being made in an "abstract and vague" situation.

"It is improper to arrest incumbent lawmakers who are not liable to escape or eliminate evidences. Arrest of these three is also unfair when we think of other lawmakers who had made overseas trips according to the old practice. After an intra-party discussion, we will file for a habeas corpus," Yi said. [passage omitted]

Labor Envoy Sent To Meet With Daewoo Strikers

SK0902060291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0529 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 9 (YONHAP)—Labor Affairs Minister Choe Pyong-yol sent a representative to talk with strikers at the Daewoo Shipyard on Koje Island Friday afternoon and warned that the workers with the shipyard's defense industry-related divisions could be punished according to pertinent laws.

Choe said he would not take any action until he received a report from Koje on the strike at Daewoo shipbuilding and heavy machinery, the first major industrial unrest since he joined the cabinet late last year.

Choe, however, said the 607 workers categorized as defense industry employees who he said are illegally taking part in the strike could be subject to legal punishment on suits being filed by their employer. The defense industry workers are banned from joining collective actions under laws on labor dispute adjustment, choe said.

Article 12 of the labor dispute adjustment act says employees of local governments, state- or local government-run corporations and defense industries may not engage in acts of dispute. The shipyard has a defense-related vessel division and 607 of the strikers are believed to work there.

His statement, the government's first reaction to the strike, was unexpected as union and management agreed to continue talks on the remaining 20 issues until Feb. 13, a day before the lunar new year holidays begin.

Some 50 union leaders set up headquarters atop a 104-meter goliath crane Thursday night in preparation for a possible police raid, arming themselves with nuts and bolts, thinner and gasoline along with enough water for six months.

A ministry official said various countermeasures were under consideration but that such extreme steps as emergency adjustment would not be used unless the situation drastically deteriorated. The ministry task force will remain at the scene until Feb. 14, he said.

Article 40 of the labor dispute adjustment act says the labor minister may invoke emergency adjustment if a dispute is related to a business of public interest, or is of such a scope or character that there is a danger it might substantially impair the nation's economy or inconvenience the general public.

Thorniest among the unsolved issues is the union demand for an annual bonus amounting to six months' wages, consultation prior to discipling union members and placing workers on the no-payment lay-off list when they are arrested in connection with labor activities so they can return to their jobs.

The two sides narrowed their differences a great deal through two meetings Friday, except for the thorny issues. Out of 132 issues originally at stake, agreement has been reached on 112 since collective bargaining began in November.

Talks Headed for Collapse

SK1102094391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0635 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Koje Island, South Korea, Feb. 11 (YONHAP)—Talks between strikers and management at Daewoo Shipyard appeared headed for collapse Monday after a union demand that Daewoo group chairman Kim U-chung participate in collective bargaining was flatly rejected.

The scheduled 25th round of negotiations Monday afternoon at South Korea's second largest shipyard here on Koje Island was in doubt because of the new dispute, which management of Daewoo Shipbuilding and Machinery Co. denounced as "senseless."

In the morning, the union demanded that Kim attend the meeting to solve the conflict and urged workers not to slacken in their determination or slip into a holiday mood. The annual lunar new year holiday runs Thursday through Sunday.

Upsetting initial predictions of an early end to the strike, based upon the fact that the two sides agreed to keep talking until Wednesday, the walkout now looks set for the long haul.

The introduction of riot troopers into the dispute has been put off for the time being. Meeting on Sunday afternoon, vice south Kyongsang Governor Pak Chong-taek, Changsungpo Mayor Yi Chin-yong and Kim Tae-kou, president of Daewoo shipbuilding, decided to give talk a chance as the strike was peaceful.

About 4,000 workers, less than half of the 10,000 strikers, were to hold a rally in the afternoon following meetings with their shop stewards.

Escalating the war of words, the company handed out leaflets denouncing union chairman Pak Sun-hwan's protest atop a 104-meter-high "goliath" crane for prolonging the strike and urging him to come down and talk.

Pak climbed on top of the world's tallest crane thursday with 50 union officials in preparation for a police raid. Pak is also chairman of the nation's shipyard unions and events on Koje Island will have a big influence at other shipyards.

Over 1,000 workers in the yard's defense industry divisions, including a special vessel sector, went back to work Monday morning after the labor ministry threatened to arrest them on charges of violating the labor dispute adjustment act.

Under Article 12 of the labor dispute adjustment act, it is illegal for employees of defense industries to join disputes.

The strike at the Daewoo Shipyard, which has a workforce of 12,000, started with a deadlock in collective bargaining over 20 issues left unsolved in talks going on since November.

Meanwhile, North Korea has declared its solidarity with the Daewoo strikers in a radio broadcast Sunday, urging all workers in the South to join hands with them in an anti-government struggle.

The broadcast, in extensive coverage, said the strike was receiving wide support from the public and it was a "righteous fight" to win democracy and basic rights, according to Naewoe press, Seoul's communist affairs watcher.

Seoul Police Box Burned by Student Demonstrators

SK0902131191 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 1200 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Another police box has been burned by student demonstrators. At around 0530 this afternoon, 300 students who belong to the National Democratic Student League threw approximately 30 fire bombs at the Tapsimni 2 Tong Police Box, Seoul. As a result, the interior of the police box was burned and Police Sergeant Kim Tae-hun, chief of this police box, was injured.

The students took to the street, chanted slogans, and set fire to the police box by throwing fire bombs. After that, they staged a fierce demonstration for two hours and threw stones and fire bombs at policemen who rushed to the scene.

DLP Celebrates First Anniversary 9 February

SK0902032491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0213 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 9 (YONHAP)—South Korea's government party celebrated its first anniversary tainted by scandal Saturday, but promised the people "clean government."

President No Tae-u, who is head of the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], told 2,000 party members gathered at the party's Central Political Education Institute in eastern Seoul the government would "thoroughly investigate" all the scandals and "clear public suspicions."

"These recurring incidents of corruption have forced the people to question the morality of the leading figures in our society. The government will thoroughly investigate these incidents and will deal with them as the law stipulates to clear the public suspicions," he said.

An overseas trip by three lawmakers paid for by two powerful lobbying groups and influence-peddling in the distribution of apartments in southern Seoul have fanned public mistrust in the incumbent administration, already damaged by soaring inflation and a hefty trade deficit.

"If the politicians and leaders in society fail to comply with the call of the times for reform, their authority and legitimacy will be endangered.... Our party, feeling an overwhelming sense of responsibility for the reality of today, is resolved to stand in the vanguard of reform for clean government and clean politics," No said.

The party adopted a four-point ethics code and promised to eliminate corruption, realize responsible politics, establish social order, and eradicate sectionalism and favoritism.

The DLP was created in a merger of the ruling Democratic Justice Party and two opposition parties—the Reunification Democratic Party of Kim Yong-sam, who now is executive chairman of the DLP, and the new Democratic Republican Party of Kim Chong-pil, a co-chairman of the party.

The merger left Kim Tae-chung's Party for Peace and Democracy powerless in parliamentary opposition, giving the DLP 218 of the 299 seats to the PPD's 70.

Preparations Made for Global Environmental Laws

SK2901072791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0633 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 29 (YONHAP)—A committee is to be set up to help South Korean industry prepare for the enactment of global environmental regulations that will, among other things, ban chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), the Environment Ministry said Tuesday.

The ministry will also expand environmental evaluation to cover sports facilities and forests, and create a fund to pay for air and water cleanups using fines paid by polluters, it said in a briefing to President No Tae-u on the year's major policies.

Korea needs to prepare for environmental protection laws that will go into effect over the next few years, such as the Montreal Protocol and International Convention on Climate Change.

These worldwide rules will gradually phase out the use of CFCs, mainly freon and halon, and enforce standards for carbon dioxide emissions, ministry officials said.

CFCs are commonly used in refrigerators, air conditioners and aerosols, and Korea's market for these products, including exports, is estimated at close to 4 trillion won (5.59 billion U.S. dollars), they said.

The new committee will focus on technological development and on finding alternatives to CFCs to minimize the impact of the regulations on Korean industry, the report said.

The ministry will add four areas to the 11 that it is already evaluating for their impact on the environment—waterway development, sports facilities, forestry development and waste disposal.

Measures will be taken to make sure that industrial plans are given sufficient study of the possible environmental impact before they are submitted to the government for approval, it said.

Federation Asks Government To Reduce Farm Imports

SK1102045691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0250 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 11 (YONHAP)—The National Agricultural Cooperative Federation demanded Monday that the government reduce agricultural imports and keep its firm stand in the Uruguay Round negotiations.

The government should stay with the list of non-trade concerns and secure a grace period long enough for tariff cuts, it said.

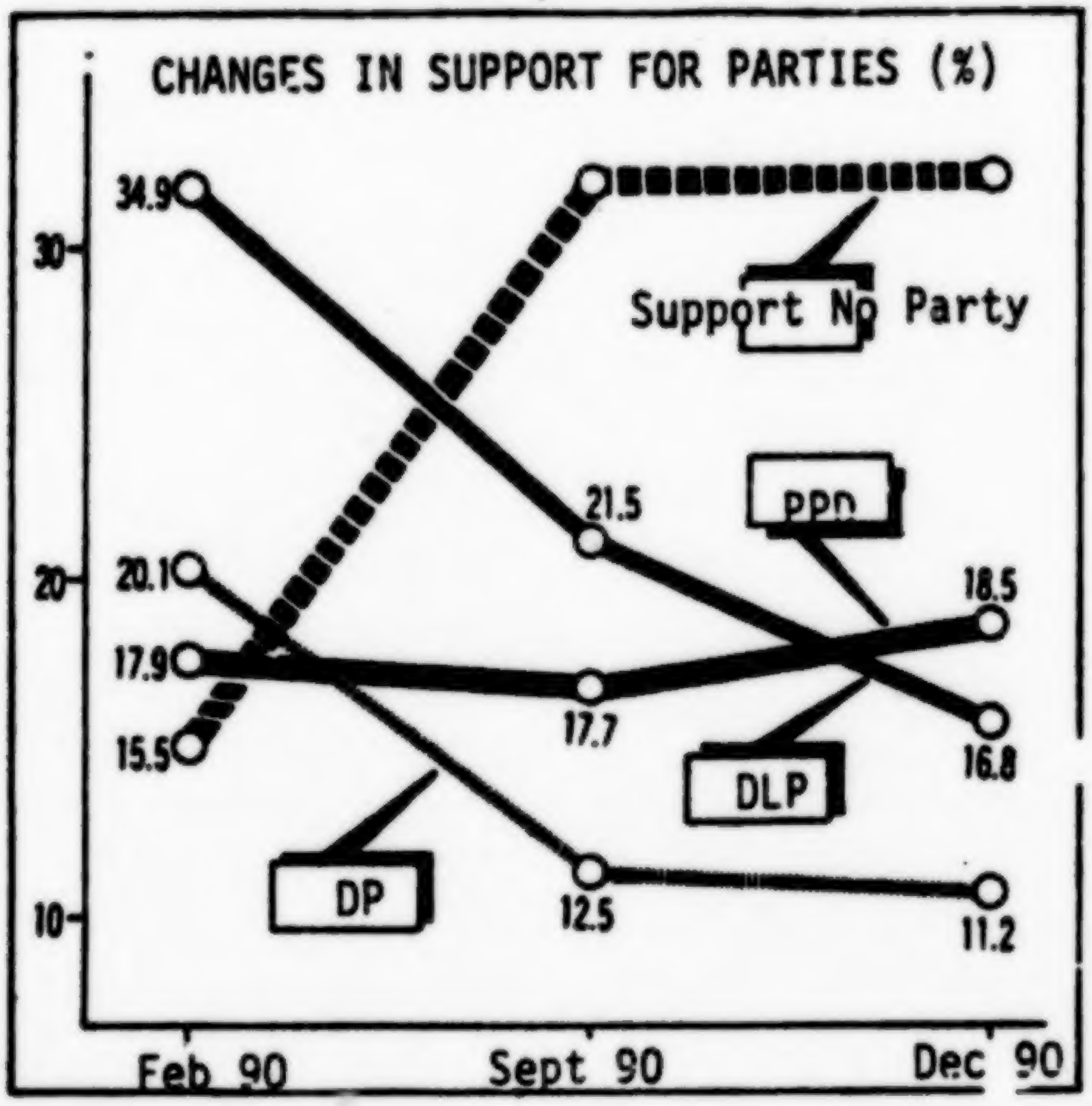
It called for restrictions on imports, particularly from North Korea and China, that could jeopardize farmers in Korea or reduce domestic prices.

NACF called for more support for flower growers and a new pricing system for agricultural products.

Correction to Gallup Poll Shows Support for DLP

WA0802202391

The following graphic was omitted from the item headlined "Gallup Poll Shows Support for DLP Lowest Ever," published in the 1 February East Asia DAILY REPORT, page 30:



Burma

Editorial Supports Union Day Political Objectives

BK0802141191 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 0140 GMT 7 Feb 91

[LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN 7 February editorial: "Union Day Objectives Which Must Be Implemented Without Fail"—from the press review]

[Text] The political objectives for the 44th anniversary of the Union Day in 1991 are: to foster the emergence of the state constitution which is the primary duty of all people of the Union; to strive with might and main for the development of all the national races; to crush all internal and external destructive activities with the sense of dynamic patriotism and the strength of unity; and to carry out without fail together with the Defense Services the three main causes—prevention of the disintegration of the Union; prevention of the disintegration of national solidarity; and perpetuation of national sovereignty. The abovementioned objectives are to be implemented with the Union spirit based on the Panglong Treaty which was signed on 12 February 1947.

At present the emergence of the state constitution—a primary duty of all the people of the Union—is the most important issue. The 1947 State Constition ceased to have effect in 1962 while the 1974 State Constition was dissolved in 1988. Therefore, there is a need at present for all the people of the Union to thoroughly consult, draft, and endorse a constitution that is longlasting and firm. Thus, it can be seen that drafting the state constitution is the primary duty of all the people of the Union.

Likewise, it is necessary for all the people of the Union to strive for the development of the national races. Currently, the state is making the utmost efforts for the comprehensive development of the country and is spending a huge amount of funds for developing border regions and national races. Therefore, it will be necessary for the local people to give full cooperation and make utmost efforts. While carrying out these tasks they should remain vigilant to internal and external destructive acts and crush them with the sense of dynamic patriotism and the strength of unity.

It is important for the people of the Union to remain aware of the three main causes for prevention of the Union, prevention of national solidarity, and perpetuation of sovereignty and work together with the Defense Services.

There is a definite need for the entire people of the Union to implement without fail these meaningful and much needed objectives for the 44th Union Day of 1991 in unity.

Editorial on Preparation for National Convention

BK0902101591 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 0140 GMT 9 Feb 91

[LOKTHA PYEITHU NEXZIN 9 February editorial: "To Be Able To Cooperate in the National Convention"]

[Text] The State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] issued Declaration No. 1/90 on 27 July 1990 to publicly announce its position and future programs. The Declaration No. 1/90 stated that in today's Myanmar there are many national races who are politically conscious and that it is necessary to draw up a firm constitution after consulting and soliciting their wishes and views. It stated the SLORC is a military government which is using martial law and exercising legislative, executive, and judicial power to govern Myanmar.

The declaration categoricelly states that under present circumstances, representatives elected by the people have the responsibility of drawing up the constitution of the future democratic state. It declared that the SLORC will in no way accept the drawing up of a temporary constitution for forming an interim government to take over state power and that it will take effective action in accordance with the law if this is done. Therefore, the representatives elected by the people are to draw up a new constitution which is essential for the state. It is also important for them to thoroughly consult with the politically conscious national races in drawing up the new constitution.

At a recent coordination meeting between the SLORC and the law and order restoration councils of divisions and states, Senior General Saw Maung, chairman of the SLORC and commander in chief of the Defense Services, had clearly stated that the political parties should obtain state power only through constitutional means. At present, the political parties should be engaging in organizational work within their respective organizations in order to draft the new constitution, so that they will be prepared to cooperate when the state calls for the national convention. The editorial adds that in carrying out their organizational work they should be cautious so as not to cause disintegration of the Union and bring about disunity and hardship to the national people and strive towards the perpetuation of state sovereignty and independence.

The editorial states that this is the time for the political parties to consult with the national races of the Union to draft the new constitution and carry out organizational work within their organizations so that they can cooperate when the state calls for the national convention.

Provisional Minister Resigns From Assembly

BK0802151991 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 8 Feb 91

[Announcement No. 910 issued by the Commission for Multiparty Democratic General Elections of the Union of Myanmar (Burma) on 8 February—10th day of the waning moon of Tabodwe, 1352 Myanmar era]

[Text] Subject: Acceptance of resignation of U Myint Aung as elected member of the People's Assembly for Kanma constituency of Magwe Division

U Myint Aung, who was elected as a member of the People's Assembly for Kanma constituency of Magwe

Division during the multiparty democratic general elections, said that he had collaborated with insurgent organizations engaged in armed rebellion against the state since October 1990, and that he had served as agriculture and forests minister in their provisional government. Although he has returned to the legal fold after considering his wrongdoing, he submitted his resignation to this commission as an elected member of the People's Assembly for Kanma constituency of Magwe Division, in view of his respect for and observance of the Election Law.

In accordance with U Myint Aung's submission, the Elections Commission announces it accepts the resignation of U Myint Aung as elected member of the People's Assembly for Kanma constituency of Magwe Division under Article 11-E of the Election Law in effect starting today.
By the authority vested in me,
Signed: Aye Maung, secretary

Group Presses Thai Trawlers for 'Protection Fees'

BK1102004091 Bangkok THE NATION in English 11 Feb 91 p A2

[Text] An umbrella organization of ethnic rebels and dissident Burmese students has demanded "protection fees" from Thai trawlers concessioned by Rangoon to fish in Burmese territorial waters, especially near areas under the control of the rebel forces.

The Democratic Alliance of Burma's [DAB] leaders announced on the weekend that each Thai trawler was required to make an "annual payment" of about Bt [baht] 100,000 to ensure that it could fish safely in Burmese waters.

The DAB embraces 21 groups of Burmese ethnic minorities, overseas Burmese, dissident students, intellectuals and monks.

Its statement followed threats from the rebel Karen National Union (KNU) that all Thai fishing vessels would be attacked if they did not stop paying royalties to Rangoon and give the money instead to the KNU.

The incidents have come not long after a group of dissident Burmese students hijacked a fishing trawler off the coast of Ranong province on Dec 29 and demanded a ransom of Bt5 million. The Daengsiri Udom was blown up on Jan 3 after the owner would not meet the group's demand.

The loss of the vessel prompted the owner to call on all Thai fishing companies to stop giving "protection fees" to minority resistance groups. Thai fishing companies in Ranong claimed last month that they had to pay between Bt50,000 and Bt100,000 to get entry to fishing grounds near the Burmese coast controlled by the groups.

The companies said the vessels which failed to pay the protection money would be attacked and robbed.

The DAB leaders said Thai trawlers would have no problems if they paid the fees directly to the DAB head office on the Burmese border opposite Tak province.

At present four big Thai companies have been concessioned to fish in Burmese waters, including Narong Canning Co which owned the vessel blown up on Jan 3.

DAB sources said about 800 vessels were fishing in Burmese coastal waters near areas under the control of minority resistance groups.

Thai Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong is reportedly scheduled to meet Burmese military leaders later this month to discuss efforts by Thai-Burmese troops to protect Thai trawlers from the rebels.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Prime Minister Announces Cabinet Resuffle

BK0902062291 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0546 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb 9 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed, announcing a minor a cabinet reshuffle here Saturday, appointed former Education Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi as minister of foreign affairs.

Abdullah Ahmad takes over from Abu Hassan Omar who moves to the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs portfolio.

Education Minister Anwar Ibrahim will succeed the minister of finance, Daim Zainuddin, who had recently announced his intention to step down from the post.

Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Dr. Sulaiman Daud takes over the Education portfolio from Anwar.

Dr. Mahathir said the appointments will take effect from March 15.

The prime minister, who is president of the United Malays National Organisation (UMNO) which is a major component of the ruling National Front coalition, spoke to reporters after a UMNO Supreme Council meeting.

Official Says Peace Talks Goal of Resolution 681

BK0802155591 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay 1430 GMT 8 Feb 91

[Text] Malaysia's proposal of Resolution No. 681 to the United Nations is aimed at holding peace talks concerning the Middle East crisis. Deputy Foreign Minister Datuk Dr. Abdullah Fadzil Che Wan told the lower house of parliament the resolution proposed that peace talks be held after the war in the Gulf ends. According to him, Malaysia had previously expressed its support for the UN Resolution No. 678 which only authorizes the military to oust the Iraqi troops from Kuwait. Although Malaysia supports the resolution, it declared that it only supports the purpose of ousting Iraq from Kuwait.

According to him, the UN should be informed on whatever action is undertaken by the United States and the allied forces but unfortunately, they failed to do so.

Deputy Prime Minister on SRV Official's Visit

BK1102081991 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0343 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb 11 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia is prepared to help Vietnam reconstruct its economy, Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba has said.

He said with its economic recovery, Vietnam would be able to mitigate the problem of its people leaving the country, a problem which Malaysia had to bear in sharing the burden of sheltering them.

"It is not wrong if we were to help and cooperate with them" he told reporters Sunday after seeing off Vietnam's first vice chairman, Vo Van Kiet at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport.

Vo and his delegation were on a four-day visit to Malaysia from Feb 6.

Ghafar said Vietnam was interested in gaining knowledge from Malaysia, especially in the oil palm, rubber, and petroleum industries and financial and banking management.

He also said Vietnam was interested in buying fertilisers and consumer goods from Malaysia.

Malaysia, Ghafar said, would study Vietnam's offer to sell coal to the country but would only buy it if the price was competitive.

On the setting up of Malaysia-Vietnam joint committee, he said Malaysia would like to see this implemented quickly to benefit the two countries.

Vietnamese officials would be visiting Malaysia at the end of the month to continue discussions. Malaysia would also send a delegation to that country.

Meanwhile, a Vietnamese Embassy statement said Sunday that the first meeting on the setting up of the technical and economic committee would be held here at the end of the month.

It said that the areas of cooperation would be drawn up and project proposals would be submitted to the two governments at the end of next month.

The statement also said that Vo's visit here had been one of goodwill and was most fruitful.

Commentary Views Visit

BK1102093591 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] The visit of the Vietnamese first deputy prime minister, Vo Van Kiet, to Malaysia during the past week was another important step toward the establishment of closer bilateral relations between both countries. A significant outcome of the visit was a pledge by the two countries to cooperate with each other and with other Southeast Asian countries in building the region into a zone of peace, freedom, neutrality, friendship, and cooperation.

Vietnam and Malaysia also agree to solve outstanding problems in their relations on the basis of mutual understanding and in the spirit of traditional friendship and good-neighborliness. Both being developing nations, Malaysia and Vietnam, had also decided to set up a joint committee on development planning. This decision was made chiefly because of Vietnam's desire to study the Malaysian experience in the field of socioeconomic development with the aim of improving its economic status in the region.

There is considerable potential in bilateral trade and economic links between Malaysia and Vietnam as Mr. Vo said before his departure yesterday after his delegation's four-day visit here. His country would like to promote trade cooperation, expand investment opportunities in such fields as oil and gas, mining, banking, and agriculture, and in the training of economic managers and technicians.

While wishing to sell coal and rice to Malaysia, Vietnam is keen to buy fertilizers and agricultural machinery parts from this country. Vietnam has also given an assurance that it will import more palm oil from Malaysia. Vietnam is said to have a market potential of 67,000 tonnes of palm oil a year. Another area in which Vietnam has shown interest in learning from Malaysia is in the development of the banking and financial sectors.

Until a few years ago, Malaysia and Vietnam had little contact with each other in trade and economic fields although they had had diplomatic ties. There had been differences in how the two countries viewed each other. There were obvious misunderstanding and misconceptions arising from these differences. Happily, over the past year, there has been a change in attitude. Vietnamese officials have been coming to Malaysia to explain the present policy of their government and more Malaysians are now going to Vietnam to try to establish trading contacts.

These will undoubtedly lead to a steady increase in trade, which will be mutually beneficial to both countries. Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed stated at the two-day World Bank symposium in Kuala Lumpur last week that countries in the region are willing to assist Vietnam through the present phase of its development process [words indistinct] trying to liberalize and develop its economy.

Malaysia is very keen to participate in developing Vietnam's petroleum, mining, plantation, and forestry sectors and also invest in the manufacturing, financial, and other services in that country. Malaysia industrialists and entrepreneurs have over the years gained the knowledge and expertise in these fields. They have shown a willingness to share their know-how with their Vietnamese counterparts.

RSA President's Moves Against Apartheid Welcomed

BK0802154191 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay 1430 GMT 8 Feb 91

[Text] Malaysia has urged the Pretoria regime to free all political detainees and to allow politicians living abroad to return unconditionally to the country in an effort to expedite the process of abolishing the apartheid system.

While welcoming President F.W. de Klerk's announcement on the abolition of apartheid-based laws, Malaysia also wants the regime to take steps to curb violence and provide opportunities for blacks to own land.

According to a statement issued by the Foreign Ministry in Kuala Lumpur, such steps would create a positive situation toward holding serious consultations between the Pretoria regime and the concerned parties in South Africa. Immediate action should also be taken to correct the socioeconomic imbalance brought about by the apartheid system so that it moves toward a totally reformed South Africa.

According to the statement, Malaysia considers De Klerk's announcement as very encouraging and Malaysia, alongside other nations, will review steps to be taken by De Klerk as well as the reaction of the international community and the issue of embargoes against South Africa. However, the evaluation of the impact of the reforms suggested by President de Klerk should also take into account the opinions of the African National Congress, ANC, and the other countries bordering on South Africa. This should also be in line with achieving the objective of abolishing apartheid and establishing a multiracial government in South Africa.

Cambodia

Resistance Criticized; Elections Discussed

BK1002153591 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Station commentary: "Illogical and Baseless Remarks"]

[Text] At its 20th session, the First National Assembly of the State of Cambodia [SOC], which is the supreme authority and representative of the people, decided to delay its current term for another year with the aim of organizing general elections in 1992 in conformity with democratic system and the SOC Constitution. However, former King Sihanouk, who is staying outside the political limelight and is currently following the Polpotist gang, and his cronies have irresponsibly and foolishly accused the SOC and concurrently rejected its parliamentary elections planned for 1992.

What right do Sihanouk and the other Cambodian side have to prevent or forbid the Cambodian people from choosing their representatives? Everyone knows that Sihanouk as well as the other Cambodian group are all bandits. As such, they have no right whatsoever to bar the Cambodian people from implementing their right to self-determination and the SOC from executing their decisions. Instead, the SOC has the right to forcibly block them from carrying out activities in the Cambodian state.

The Cambodian people, in exercising their rights to self-determination, elected the SOC National Assembly in 1981 under the supervision of hundreds of international observers and foreign reporters. And according to the spirit of the SOC Constitution, the term of each parliamentary legislature is only five years. However, at its 10th session in 1986 the National Assembly, heeding the joint proposal by the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and the Defense National Council [KUFNCD] and the Council of State, agreed to extend its term for another five years until 1991. Over the past 10 years the National Assembly has performed its historic task in accordance with the confidence of the people and masses all over the country.

The SOC Government controls the absolute majority of the territory and people. And even though the country is in a situation where peace and war exist at the same time, the SOC should organize general elections because the old parliamentary term has already expired. However, for the sake of national reconciliation and to create favorable conditions for the international community, which has put considerable effort into assisting the search for a political solution to the Cambodia problem, our National Assembly, taking into consideration the wish of the KUFNCD National Council and the State Council, has agreed to extend its term for another year. This shows the goodwill of the SOC Government, which has always wanted to settle the Cambodian problem as soon as possible via peaceful means.

People have already clearly known that over the past three years the SOC Government has done its best with a view to jointly resolving the Cambodian problem with equity and fairness. However, former King Sihanouk, with his mercurial and unscrupulous character, and his allies are unrealistic and unwilling to settle the Cambodian problem, causing the problem to remain deadlocked. Conspicuously, they have lately pretended to totally accept the UN peace plan while fomenting the civil war in Cambodia, causing the people to further suffer and lose their lives and property. They have pretended to agree with the United Nations to disarm and demobilize the armed forces while continuing to receive huge amounts of foreign military aid, including [words indistinct] armaments and tanks, and to force refugees' underage children to serve in their army. Moreover, they have also raised the condition that any settlement of the Cambodian problem should count Pol Pot in. As a result, the Cambodian peace process has been stalemated to this point in time.

As the real owners of the country and their own destiny, our people can no longer afford to delay the term of the National Assembly. With or without a political solution, our people will organize the parliamentary elections in 1992 to comply with the resolution adopted by the National Assembly at its 20th session.

People still remember that in 1981 Sihanouk and the other Cambodian side used the issue of the Vietnamese troop presence in Cambodia as a pretext for distorting reality by saying that the elections then were unjust and undemocratic. However, to date, national and international opinion has unambiguously been aware that Vietnamese troops were completely withdrawn from Cambodia by the end of September 1989. As such, for the general elections in 1992, Sihanouk and the other Cambodian side will have no pretext whatsoever to again distort reality. So, this is why Sihanouk has been extremely irritated and nervous and has painstakingly rejected and claimed from a distance that the elections will create this or that problem and so on.

Worst, Sihanouk has again used an antiquated reason to claim that the elections will legalize Vietnam's protectorate or will turn Cambodia into part of the so-called Vietnamese federation. As for the Son Sann faction, it has vociferously claimed that the elections will hamper the Cambodian peace process and intensify the civil war in Cambodia. This is certainly a baseless and unrealistic allegation. Not only will the SOC elections not obstruct the peace process, but they will provide momentum contributing to speedily promoting peace instead.

In his speech closing the First National Assembly's 20th session, Comrade Chea Sim, National Assembly chairman, called on the other Cambodian side to heighten its patriotic conscience and its love for the people and step forward with realism to put an end to the chronic inter-Cambodian conflict, which has accomplished nothing other than to bleed white the motherland. They should hurriedly implement a cease-fire with a view to organizing the general elections, which are the best approach for a democratic contest. Furthermore, their accusation that the elections scheduled for 1992 will cause the fighting to intensify is quite unjustified. We wish to ask whether the war waged by Sihanouk in conjunction with Pol Pot in the past was caused by the elections in Cambodia or because of Sihanouk's following the Polpotist policy. By all means, their comments are completely irrational.

It is clearly understandable why the exiled former king remains unreasonable. The king's intention and the ignorant people's ambition have brought about a high-level conspiracy between former King Sihanouk and Pol Pot, who both foolishly crave vengeance because their intention and ambition have failed. We are not in the least bothered by the former king's reaction against our regime or our leaders, because we have clearly realized that he is in no way able to oppose us. As a matter of fact, in the past 12 years he has used all the means at his disposal—military, political, diplomatic, and so on, but his efforts have still come to naught.

While the king is getting older and older, his intelligence is increasingly becoming mediocre and his luck ragged. Moreover, he was also found guilty of slander by a French magistrate's court. What we cannot forgive is his vengeance against the innocent people by blocking the negotiations process to prolong the war, wreak havoc on the national society, destroy and plunder the people's property, slaughter the people, and rape their wives and daughters in the most barbarous manner. This has called for our joint endeavor to eradicate it at all costs. What occurs will certainly befall. He who sows the wind will reap the whirlwind, meaning that he will be held accountable in the face of the entire Cambodian people and history for his collusion with the genocidal clique in committing recent crimes against the people.

Anniversary Lecture Held for Friendship Group

BK0702092391 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0404 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 7 Feb (SPK)—A lecture was organized in Phnom Penh on 5 February by the Cambodia-Vietnam Friendship Association on the occasion of the 61st anniversary of the Indochinese Communist Party (PCI). The speaker, Sam Sundoeun, member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the Cambodia-Vietnam Friendship Association, laid stress on the perfidious maneuvers of their enemies who are trying by all means to break the militant solidarity binding the parties of the three Indochinese nations together. "The alliance of our three countries will always remains a strategic factor determining their development in Indochina," declared Sam Sundoeun.

For his part, Ngo Dien, Vietnamese ambassador to Cambodia, recalled how the three parties were founded in Indochina and said: "Our three parties are all born of the PCI. Therefore, the three countries must further strengthen their solidarity and friendship for the final victory of the revolution in each respective country."

On his side, Somphong Vanitsavet, acting charge d'affaires of Laos to Cambodia, said: "The victory of the Lao people have been inseparable from the militant solidarity of the parties, armed forces, peoples of the three Indochinese countries, solidarity which more than ever must be consolidated and developed so as to contribute to defending the stability in Southeast Asia and the world."

Mat Ly Receives Thai, Indian Muslim Group

BK1002095391 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0403 GMT 10 Feb 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 10 Feb (SPK)—Mat Ly, member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the National Assembly, and vice chairman of the National Council of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense a group of Thai and Indian Muslims in Phnom Penh on Thursday, led by Abdul Rahman Palalong, in charge of the Research and Propaganda Department of Islam in Thailand.

Mat Ly welcomed the visitors and pointed out that they can see for themselves the reality in Cambodia, particularly the achievements scored by the Cambodian people since their liberation from the genocidal Pol Pot regime. He said these successes were due to the efforts of the

Cambodian party, government, and people, including the Muslim population, who are united in national defense and construction.

He also stressed the Cambodian people's struggle to prevent the genocidal Pol Pot regime's return and the continued efforts of Cambodia's party and government for a political settlement to immediately put an end to the war.

Mat Ly also talked about the new regime's consideration for freedom of conscience, particularly for Buddhism and Islam, and expressed his thanks to all countries and humanitarian and international organizations for bringing their assistance to the war-stricken Cambodian people.

For his part, Abdul Rahman Palalong said he was impressed by Cambodia's national rebirth, notably the government's open policy toward mores, customs, and religious practices. He affirmed that what he saw in Cambodia is the opposite of what the propaganda of the other Cambodian side and in some Western countries depicts.

Public Financing for Budget Needs Mobilized

BK0902021191 Bangkok THE NATION in English 9 Feb 91 p A5

[Kawi Chongkitthawon]

[Text] Phnom Penh—The Cambodian Government has begun to mobilize public funds for the first time to finance the country's costly defence needs and to sustain its huge bureaucracy, a senior government official said.

In an interview with THE NATION, Cha Rieng, the governor of the State Bank of Cambodia, said the government had recently issued saving bonds to raise the much-needed money to increase government revenue.

Cha Rieng said the saving bonds, which carry a fixed interest rate of 2.88 per cent, will mature within three years. "The government is expected to earn about 5 billion riels, or Bt [baht] 200 million, from this bond," he said.

At the same time, he said the public can also purchase newly issued charity certificates to contribute to the government fund for use in improving public services and utilities. Cha Rieng hopes that the certificates would bring in an additional 2 billion riels.

These monetary tools are part of the government's current attempt to reduce this year's budget deficit, which is expected to reach tens of billions of riels this year.

The National Assembly last week also adopted eight new tax laws including those on vehicles and transportation, fiscal stamps, marking-seals, postal-due stamps, receipt stamps and abattoirs.

New Customs Duties

New customs duties for export-import goods will also be levied, Cha Rieng said. Furthermore, he added that concerned ministries and agencies will come out with their own measures to ensure that the government receives all the money collected from the taxation.

In the past 12 years, he pointed out the government's tax policy has not been comprehensive and at the same [time] not effectively carried out, and "most of the money went to individuals' pockets." He estimated the government losses each year at billions of riels in revenue.

Cha Rieng, who returned from Thailand recently, said the Bank of Thailand has agreed to provide two financial exports to work out a comprehensive tax system to increase government revenue as well as a banking system. The experts are scheduled to arrive here this week.

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This year, he said, the government has earmarked a rather high budget because the country has to prepare for the national defence against the enemy—the Cambodian resistance forces operating along Thai-Cambodian border—and to meet the wage bill of the mammoth bureaucracy.

The Phnom Penh Government had to fall back on its own resources in the war against the resistance after the Soviet Union halted its arms assistance at the end of last year. Moscow used to provide the bulk of the arms to the Cambodian forces. After the Vietnamese troops withdrawal in September 1989, The Phnom Penh troops had to defend the country themselves. At present, Vietnam remains the only major supplier of arms for Cambodia.

Fierce Offensive

Over the week, the Khmer Rouge launched a fierce offensive in Battambang with artillery shells. The government forces had to call in reinforcements to fight against the Khmer Rouge rebels, who reportedly had the aid of three Chinese-made tanks.

As in the previous year, over half of the government budget is allocated to defence, according to Cha Rieng.

"We hope there will be peace this year. But we have to prepare to meet the uncertainties posed by the enemies," he said.

Another factor that has drained government finances is the 430,000 strong civil service who form the Cambodian bureaucracy of this country with a population of 8.7 million.

A diplomat from a socialist country commented that the Cambodian bureaucracy is too big and too slow to effectively implement policies. "Because of their low pay, they have to worry about their living instead of working hard," the diplomat said. The average salary of government work is about 5,000 riels per month or Bt200.

Cha Rieng said the government has not been successful with its effort to reduce the number of civil servants by 50 per cent. So far, only 40-50,000 persons either voluntarily left or retired through the government's compensation schemes.

Interior Ministry Sets Deadline for ID Cards

BK0902091491 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 8 Feb 91

[Text] To heighten the respect for the Cambodian people's right to be masters, to facilitate people's travels throughout the country, and to promote control along roads in necessary cases to contribute to maintaining political security and social order, the Interior Ministry has issued the following communique:

1. The significance of citizen identity cards. The card is very important to confirm that the owner is a Cambodian citizen. All Cambodian citizens are recorded in family registers with addresses in a locality within the State of Cambodia's territorial integrity.

2. Benefits of identity cards. A citizen with an identity card has the right to travel inside the country without a travel pass and fill forms to own land and property and to work in state and social institutions, including applying for scholarship to study abroad, and so on.

3. Time, control, and place of issue. For those already in possession of identity cards, these can be used as stipulated in point two above. Those who do not have identity cards yet should hurry and get theirs not later than the end of March 1991.

For the places for applying and issuing identity cards, please contact police offices in districts, wards, and provincial seats nationwide. For Cambodian residents and foreign nationals, there will be separate regulations and guidelines.

State and social institutions should effectively implement this communique in accordance with their competence. This communique takes effect from the day it is made public.

Heng Samrin Addresses Interior Ministry Meeting

BK1002100591 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0408 GMT 10 Feb 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 10 Feb (SPK)—The Interior Ministry held a meeting from 4 to 7 February to review its 1990 activities and set targets for the years to come.

Heng Samrin, general secretary of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State, and Hun Sen, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers, attended the meeting.

According to the report presented at the meeting, in 1990 the security forces, in cooperation with the armed forces and militiamen, put out of action 3,331 reactionary Cambodian soldiers and wounded 2,491 others; another 424, excluding 16 who were forced to surrender, were taken prisoner. Over 1,300 assorted weapons, nearly 4,000 mines and explosives, 22 walkie-talkies, and a quantity of war materiel were also seized.

According to the report, due to successive setbacks, over 3,000 enemy soldiers—most of them Pol Pot troops—presented themselves to authorities in various provinces, bringing with them a considerable quantity of weapons and war materiel. Furthermore, the security forces dismantled over 1,000 clandestine enemy cells, confiscated 201 rifles, two walkie-talkies, and two vehicles, and uncovered many arms caches.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairman Heng Samrin stressed that these successes reflect the growth of patriotic forces in every field and confirm their confidence in themselves. He said that in Cambodia the safeguarding of political security is even more important in the face of the threat of the genocidal Pol Pot clique's return to power. He pointed out that the enemy has not changed, at any rate. It is still trying to topple the State of Cambodia after 12 years of vain efforts and even negotiations.

"We should hold aloft the banner of independence, peace, and national reconciliation. The population should be shown our genuine goodwill for peace and national reconciliation based on the guarantee for the people's life, national independence, and respect for the Cambodian people's right to self-determination and for the UN Charter, particularly the guarantee for the non-return to power of the genicodal clique," said Heng Samrin.

Delegation To Attend Francophone Conference

BK0702064891 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0400 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 7 Feb (SPK)—A delegation of the Phnom Penh City led by its mayor, Hok Langdi, left Wednesday for Togo where it will attend a conference of French-speaking cities and countries at the invitation of the mayor of Lome, capital of the host country.

Before its departure, the delegation revealed that at this forum which will be held on 13 February, the Phnom Penh mayor would inform the participants of the current situation in the Cambodian capital and of the devastations caused by the genocidal Pol Pot regime and he would also appeal to other French-speaking capitals and countries to make contributions to the restoration of Phnom Penh City.

Hok Langdi also plans to meet with Mr. Jacques Chirac, mayor of Paris, to discuss problems relating to the continuation of French assistance in the restoration of the city and in the teaching of French in Phnom Penh.

Report on Battle Success in Western Cambodia

BK0902072091 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0430 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK February 9—In January this year, the government forces stationed in Kompong Thom Province, 150 km north of Phnom Penh, put 220 enemy soldiers out of action, including 113 killed, 16 wounded, 41 captured, and 50 others forced to lay down their arms in the attacks against enemy sabotage and pillage activities.

The heaviest casualties on the enemy side were recorded at northeast of Stoung district, in which 73 enemy soldiers killed, three wounded, and 14 captured and 89 rifles seized.

Also during the same period, 237 enemy troops were put out of action, including 98 killed, 70 wounded, and 31 captured at Pong Ro Kraom area, Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province, 300 km northwest of Phnom Penh.

In the period under review, the government forces of Banteay Meanchey Province, 360 km northwest of Phnom Penh, annihilated 15 enemy troops and seized a quantity of other war means.

Humanitarian Aid for War Refugees in Siem Reap

BK1002134691 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1107 GMT 10 Feb 91

[Summary] Phnom Penh 10 Feb (SPK)—There are 3,726 war refugee families or 19,378 persons, in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province, some 300 km northwest of Phnom Penh. Of the 14 districts in the province, Samraong has received nearly 950 families, followed by Kralanh, Chong Kal, Sot Nikom, Varin, and Banteay Srei.

Last September, the province received humanitarian aid from three international organizations, PADEC [expansion unknown], Oxfam, and Save the Children, comprising 1,500 sets of items for daily use costing 37 U.S. dollars a set. The World Food Program recently provided 200 tonnes of rice, 750 kg of medicine, and 1,000 square meters of waterproof sheets to the 14 districts in the province.

In January this year, PADEC spent 30 million riels [Cambodian currency] to restore people's orchards and plans to spend another 500,000 U.S. dollars to build public structures and develop agriculture. PADEC, OXFAM, and Save the Children plan to provide in May another 1,500 sets of items for daily use while a humanitarian organization in Japan has offered two tonnes of clothes.

SRV Words on Sovereignty Said Hypocritical

BK0902074191 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 8 Feb 91

[Station commentary: "The Hanoi Enemy Aggressors Can Never Use the Reason of Respecting Cambodia's Sovereignty To Dodge a Settlement of Their War of Aggression in Cambodia in Accordance With the 26 November 1990 Draft Document"]

[Text] At a 4 February meeting in Hanoi with the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia and the UN representative, Hanoi Vietnamese ringleader Nguyen Van Linh repeated the same chorus that any settlement of the Cambodian problem should take into consideration respect for Cambodia's sovereignty.

The Vietnamese leader's antiquated statement shows that the Vietnamese continue to oppose the document forged by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC]—particularly the 28 August 1990 blueprint and the 26 November 1990 draft document, which demand that the United Nations play an enhanced role in settling the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia politically and comprehensively, especially in verifying the complete withdrawal of all categories of Vietnamese forces from Cambodia and in administering the country in the leadup to elections.

What does the respect for Cambodia's sovereignty uttered by the Hanoi authorities really mean? It means that the puppet regime—installed in 1979 by tens of thousands of Vietnamese aggressor forces, including civil and military staff ruling and controlling the country in every field—should be recognized or preserved. Straightforwardly speaking, Vietnam's invasion and occupation of Cambodia should be recognized. As such, Vietnam has no goodwill whatsoever to settle its war of aggression via a comprehensive political solution and to allow Cambodia to recover peace, independence, sovereignty, and the right to self-determination. Vietnam remains persistent in waging a war of aggression against Cambodia with the aim of occupying the country forever in accordance with the late Ho Chi Minh's Indochinese Federation strategy.

However, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors can never use the reason of respecting Cambodia's sovereignty to dodge a settlement of their war of aggression in the country in keeping with the peace plan hammered out by the UNSC permanent members and the Paris conference cochairmen. Because:

1. The five UNSC permanent members' document, particularly the 28 August 1990 framework document, has already been endorsed by the entire UNSC and the UN General Assembly. The framework document has also been fleshed out, resulting in the 26 November 1990 draft document. Therefore, the document has become the unique official blueprint for resolving the Cambodian problem, and the Vietnamese aggressors can neither modify nor destroy it. Moreover, those documents have already officially been accepted by Vietnam and its lackey puppets through the 10 September 1990 joint statement and the Paris 23 December 1990 declaration. That being the case, Vietnam and its lackey puppets should respect and implement those documents without fail because this involves implementing the international agreements.

2. Vietnam has violated Cambodia's independence and sovereignty by sending tens of thousands of its troops to invade and occupy the country. The violation has been condemned for 12 years by the international community and the UN General Assembly since 1979. Therefore, the Hanoi authorities can never use the wording of respect for Cambodia's sovereignty to deny the document worked out by the five UNSC permanent members and the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia.

The international community, particularly the five UNSC permanent members and the Paris Conference cochairmen, will continue to apply pressure on Vietnam until it is compelled to accept a comprehensive political settlement of its war of aggression in Cambodia in accordance with the 26 November 1990 draft document.

Resistance Burns 12 Soviet-Made T-54 Tanks

BK0902030491 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 8 Feb 91

["Report on Battambang-Route 10-Sangke River Bank Battlefield"]

[Text] 1. Route 10 front: On 5 February, the Vietnamese enemies and puppets marshalled their troops from Kamping Puoy, Thmar Kraham, Thnoeng, and Boeng Ampil with cannons and tanks in a bid to seize liberated areas the west of Route 10 from our national resistance forces. After an entire day of fighting, the Vietnamese-puppet troops were routed and forced to beat a hasty retreat. We burned four Soviet-made T-54 tanks, and we killed 18 and wounded 35 enemy soldiers.

On 6 February, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors gathered their troops from Kamping Puoy and Thmar Kraham with 19 tanks, cannons, and multiple rocket launchers in an attempt to retake the above-mentioned liberated areas from us. However, after another day of battle, we completely routed the Vietnamese forces. We burned three more T-54 tanks and destroyed a great many enemy soldiers.

On 7 February, the Vietnamese enemies called their troops up from Thnoeng and Boeng Ampel with four tanks in order to retake the same liberated areas. Following three hours of clash, we routed and forced the Vietnamese forces to rush back behind their lines and we burned a T-54 tank.

2. Sangke River bank front: Since 2 February, The Vietnamese enemies and puppets marshalled 600 soldiers from the 330th, 309th, 4th, and 146th Vietnamese divisions and the 92d and 95th puppet brigades with tanks, artillery pieces, and multiple rocket launchers with the aim of retaking our liberated areas along the Sangke River banks. But on 6 February, the Vietnamese enemy troops were completely defeated. We destroyed four tanks and killed or wounded many enemy soldiers.

Resistance Shells Battambang Town; 5th Region

BK1102003691 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 10 Feb 91

["Special Report on Attacks Against Battambang Town"]

[Text] Between the night of 8 February and dawn of 9 February, our national resistance forces fired artillery shells into the center of Battambang town, leaving many areas on fire. Over 20 shells landed in the 5th Military Region of the Vietnamese enemies and their puppets and 70 other shells fell in the vicinity of the Vietnamese-puppet administrative offices. They are in great panic. Meanwhile, the people and the low-ranking government officials are very happy and prayed for the national resistance forces to continue shelling the town.

172 Enemies Killed in Attack on 4th Region

BK1102055991 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0407 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 11 Feb (SPK)—The armed forces of the 4th Military Region repelled an enemy attack during the first week of February, killing 172 attackers, wounding 190, and capturing 21 others, according to a military source which added that two enemy tanks were destroyed and 41 arms and a walkie-talkie were seized.

The same source noted that from 27 January to 1 February the Cambodian People's Armed Forces in the course of their counter-operations put out of action 253 enemy soldiers, including 118 killed, 71 captured, and 64 others forced to surrender. They also seized 270 assorted weapons, three walkie-talkies, and 600,000 shells.

During that period, 116 Khmer reactionaries were put out of action, including 34 killed on the spot in their attacks inside Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province. Our armed forces seized 60 arms and a considerable amount of ammunition, and destroyed two camps. For their part, the provincial armed forces of Kompong Thom put out of action 110 enemy soldiers, including five killed, 64 captured, and 41 forced to surrender, and seized 152 weapons. In the 3d Military Zone, government troops conducted five operations and eliminated 63 enemy soldiers, including 21 killed. They seized 15 firearms and 15 mines and destroyed four camps.

It is to be recalled that in January this year, 657 enemy soldiers were put out of action, including 438 killed, 89 captured, and 121 forced to surrender. The Cambodian combatants seized 404 arms and 14 talkie-walkies and destroyed 13 hideouts and some other war materiel.

Indonesia

Japanese Consulate Receives Second Bomb Threat

OW0802130391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1243 GMT 8 Feb 91

[Text] Jakarta, Feb. 8 KYODO—The Japanese Consulate General in Medan in northern Sumatra has received a threatening letter because of Japan's financial assistance to the U.S.-led multinational coalition fighting Iraq in the Persian Gulf war, a Japanese Embassy spokesman in Jakarta said Friday.

The letter said the Japanese mission would be destroyed unless Japan stops providing assistance to the allied war efforts.

This is the second threatening letter the consulate has received.

Criticism is mounting in Indonesia of Japan's support for the U.S. and its allies in the Gulf War.

Indonesia, a predominantly Muslim nation, voted for the United Nations resolution authorizing member states to use "all necessary means" to drive Iraq out of occupied Kuwait. But pro-Iraqi sentiments have flared among Indonesian Muslims.

The Japanese spokesman said Medan Consul General Toshihiro Kojima has warned the 150 Japanese living there to watch the situation carefully. The embassy has also urged the 5,000 Japanese residents of Jakarta to be cautious.

Suharto To Study Pakistan's Gulf Peace Plan

BK1102102791 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0930 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Jakarta, Feb 11 (OANA-ANTARA)—President Suharto said Monday that Indonesia will study Pakistan's proposal for holding an emergency meeting by foreign ministers of member countries of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] to discuss a solution for the Gulf crisis.

The problem on whether it is necessary for ICO to hold an emergency meeting was discussed by the head of state and the visiting Pakistani minister for railway, Mir Hazar Khan Bijrani, at the Bina Graha Presidential Office, Interim Minister of Foreign Affairs L.B. Murdani told reporters.

The Pakistani premier's special envoy met the president to explain his government's proposal for holding an ICO emergency meeting in connection with Iraq's persistent refusal to pull its troops out from Kuwait.

Murdani, who accompanied Pakistani Premier Nawaz Sharif's special envoy during the meeting with the president, said Indonesia is expected to make a decision on whether it is necessary for ICO to hold a meeting in the coming several weeks.

On the occasion, President Suharto also expressed his hope that the Gulf war would not cause Moslem-populated countries to split.

The president told his guest that before the outbreak of the war between Iraqi troops and the multinational forces, Indonesia took part in an attempt to prevent the war. It sent a message to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn through his ambassador here. But Saddam Husayn refused the Indonesian proposal.

The Pakistani special envoy has previously told the press that Pakistan takes part in an effort to solve the problem because his government is against all forms of aggression and occupation of a country by another.

Bijrani said Pakistan has also proposed an ICO meeting to a number of countries such as Saudi Arabia, Iran, Jordan, Morocco, and Malaysia.

He explained that even though the proposal came from Pakistan, the framework of the meeting which is scheduled in Islamabad has not yet been made.

Pakistan wants the Iraqi troops to (?withdraw) from Kuwait and the multinational forces from Saudi Arabia followed by an establishment of a peace-keeping force by the ICO.

Bijrani said President Suharto appreciated the Pakistani proposal. Indonesia is of the opinion that war will never turn out any positive result but hardship on the people.

In reply to questions on Pakistani troops in Saudi Arabia, Bijrani said that Pakistani forces were not under the coordination of the United States but the Saudi Government. On the occasion, President Suharto also received Kuwaiti Cabinet Secretary 'Abd-al Rahman al-'Awadi who delivered a message from the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah. Al-'Awadi hoped that Indonesia would continue its effort to help solve the crisis.

Murdani told the press that the president explained Indonesia's attitude which calls on Iraq to pull out from Kuwait which would be followed by efforts to solve other problems, including Palestine.

Foreign Minister Remarks on UN, Gulf Issues

BK1102091291 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0834 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Kuta (Bali), Feb. 11 (OANA-ANTARA)—The Non-aligned Movement (NAM) and the developing countries have been trying to change the working mechanism of the United Nations for years but never get through, according to Foreign Minister Ali Alatas.

The question on the UN working mechanism is not a new issue, instead it has been disputed among the developing countries since long ago, Minister Alatas told the press here over the weekend.

Ever since the begining when we first joined the United Nations, we have tried, but we did not get through, the minister said commenting on the UN working mechanism which could block solutions of a conflict by using the veto rights, or the fact that a superpower could dictate the world body.

Ali Alatas said he did not bring any special proposal to the NAM meeting attended by 15 member countries taking place in Belgrade from February 11 to 12, 1991.

We will exchange views and discuss efforts to end the Gulf war immediately in accordance with the NAM policies, he said.

According to Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, Indonesia's stance on the current Gulf problem is clear, namely Iraq must withdraw from Kuwait.

But Indonesia and other member countries of the Non-aligned Movement also share the opinion stressing that the Palestinian issue is the most fundamental problem in the Middle East, according to him.

In other words, how we could link the two questions—the withdrawal of the Iraqi troops from Kuwait and the solution to the Palestinian problem, he said.

But a formulation which could pave the way for solutions to the two problems has not been found yet, because when the question on the Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait arises, Iraq rejects, so do the United States and its allies when it comes to the Arab-Israel problem, he added.

We need to continue seeking possibilities to solve the problems as hinted by President Suharto, Alatas said.

Regarding the Cambodian problem, Minister Alatas said the issue has continued to be attentively noticed although the world's attention is currently on the Gulf region.

Government Faces Pro-Iraqi Criticism

BK1002084891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0834 GMT 10 Feb 91

[By Alain Boebion]

[Text]) Jakarta, Feb 10 (AFP)—The Government of Indonesia, the world's largest Moslem country, faces criticism both from opposition politicians and from within the ruling party itself for its policy of neutrality in the Gulf war.

Attacks on the government, barely concealed three weeks ago, are becoming increasingly direct and acerbic, from private comments among ruling Golkar Party members to more open criticism in the press and the legal opposition.

"Does Iraq really need to be torn to shreds like the Palestinians have been?" The government newspaper SUARA KARYA asked in an editorial this week.

Ruling party parliamentarians have accused the government of remaining on the diplomatic sidelines, a position they feel could jeopardise Indonesia's hopes of winning the presidency of the Non- Aligned Movement (NAM) next year.

The feeling of impotence has been reinforced by Foreign Minister Ali Alatas's lack of conviction about the NAM meeting to seek a solution to the Gulf crisis, to be held in Belgrade next week at Yugoslavia's initiative.

When MPs [members of parliament] accused Mr. Alatas of lacking the will to work for a Gulf cease-fire, he replied, "the Non-Aligned Movement has spoken out almost daily, but it cannot do anything because the United Nations has sole control over the Gulf war."

Jakarta, which condemned iraq's invasion of Kuwait, has refused to join the multinational force, despite what Western diplomats here described as persistent pressure from Washington and Riyadh.

Nationalist groups have condemned the government for its "lack of clarity." B.N. Marboen, a deputy from the Indonesian Democratic Party, accused Jakarta of being "more concerned about financial aid" from the West and Japan than a resolution of the crisis.

Several deputies from the Party for Unified Development, an amalgam of former Islamic parties, maintain that Jakarta's neutrality amounts to "tacit support for the United States" while "the majority of the population has more sympathy for Iraq."

The foreign minister dismissed these accusations, saying, "at present the nature of the war is different from others in that it has been authorised by the United Nations."

"Just because there have not been any results yet does not mean that we are not taking this seriously. ... We are looking for a way," Mr. Alatas said, reiterating that Indonesia favoured a comprehensive solution to Middle East problems including the Palestinian issue.

Syamsuri Badawi, a Moslem parliamentarian, rejected Mr. Alatas's statements as "useless," adding that Jakarta's demand that Iraq withdraw from Kuwait did not suggest neutrality.

The government and the Armed Forces have been keen to prevent the Gulf conflict from upsetting the stability of this country, whose Moslem population of 160 million makes it the world's most populous Islamic nation.

They have asserted almost daily that the Gulf war is not a holy war against Iraq, with which Jakarta has always maintained close relations.

Although Islam is Indonesia's dominant religion, it is not a state religion and groups calling for the Islamisation of state institutions have always been tightly controlled.

Opposition from the Moslem majority has appeared among student movements, notably at the Islamic University of Indonesia in the central Javan city of Yogyakarta, where student leaders have collected signatures of students who want to fight alongside Iraqis.

The Armed Forces have stepped up security following small demonstrations of between 30 and 100 people outside the U.S. Embassy and the United Nations office in Jakarta.

In the past few days, street vendors in Yogyakarta have been openly selling posters and T-shirts with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's image on them.

Parliamentarians Regret U.S. Travel Advisory

BK0902095591 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0710 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Jakarta, Feb 9 (OANA-ANTARA)—Indonesian parliamentary circles regretted the appeal of the U.S. State Department to U.S. citizens not to visit Indonesia due to lack of security. Thus creating the impression abroad that Indonesia was lacking stability and security.

The U.S. Government may of course appeal to its citizen not to visit Indonesia. What we regret is that the appeal was connected with the situation in Indonesia as if it was lacking security, the deputy chairman of commission I of the Indonesian Parliament, H. Ipik Asmasubrata, told ANTARA here on Saturday.

According to the member of the Indonesian Democratic Party group in Parliament, stability and security in Indonesia were guaranteed and would not be influenced by the Gulf war. The Indonesian Government, Armed Forces and people, he added, were prepared to avert any kind of terrorism as a consequence of the Gulf war.

I believe that the U.S. ambassador and U.S. citizens in Indonesia could sleep soundly as well as go safely everywhere they want, Ipik said.

He admitted however, that in Jakarta several anti-war demonstrations had been staged against the U.S. Embassy and the Jakarta-based U.N. representative office. But these demonstrations were orderly and proper, because similar demonstrations occurred also in other countries.

In the U.S. itself, anti-war demonstrations which rejected U.S. involvement in the Gulf war, were even of greater proportions he stressed.

Ipik even hinted that the U.S. State Department's appeal was issued because of U.S. disappointment over Indonesia's refusal to send troops to join the multinational force in the Gulf.

As the biggest supplier of aid to Indonesia, the U.S.A. is disappointed over Indonesia's neutral stand in the Gulf problem, Ipik stressed, adding that as a non-aligned country, Indonesia's position should be neutral and not dictated by whatever party.

A similar tone came also from Muhamed Buang, deputy chairman of Commission V of Parliament (for tourist affairs).

According to Buang, the Indonesian Government through its embassies abroad should explain about the security situation in Indonesia which was fully guaranteed and under control, and that the U.S. State Department's evaluation that security was lacking in Indonesia, was totally beside the truth.

The M.P. [Member of Parliament] from the United Development group further urged the U.S. ambassador in Jakarta, John Monjo, to clear this problem with his government in Washington.

Asked whether the U.S. State Department's appeal would have an impact on the visit Indonesia year 1991, Buang said that it would have only a very insignificant influence.

Tourists from the U.S., Europe and the Middle East, expected to come to Indonesia consisted only of [word indistinct] per cent of the overall target set by Indonesia for the visit Indonesia year 1991 he asserted.

Laos

Phoumi Vongvichit Addresses Provincial Front

BK0902102091 Vientiane KPL in English 0920 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Vientiane, Feb 9 (KPL)—Phoumi Vongvichit, acting-president of the Lao PDR [Lao People's Democratic Republic], on February 7 made a key address in the capacity as president of the Lao Front for National Construction [LFNC] Central Committee to an ordinary enlarged session of the six northern provincial front for national construction held for 3 days in Sayaboury Province.

He appreciated the successful contribution by the six local chapters of the front to national defence and socio-economic development. This has manifested in their actual efforts to promote the implementation among the public of the central front's plan of actions as well as the party, state policies and resolutions on socio-economic restructuring.

The LFNC president also called on the front's members to strengthen their cohesion and the front's role in encouraging people to take part in the front's activities.

The session ended in the afternoon of the same day.

Phoumi Vongichit Accepts Church Aid for Front

BK1102100791 Vientiane KPL in English 0846 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Vientiane, Feb 11 (KPL)—The Protestant church in Vientiane, on February 8, presented to the Lao Front for National Construction Central Committee over 8 million kip worth of 10 typewriters to be distributed to local chapters of the front.

Phoumi Vongvichit, president of the Lao Front for National Construction Central Committee, on the occasion expressed his appreciation for the contribution by this Christian organisation to the development in Laos.

In 1990, this Protestant church also presented about 1 million kip worth of books to the Central Front for National Construction.

Supreme People's Assembly Reviews 1990 Activities

BK0902105891 Vientiane KPL in English 0925 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Vientiane, Feb 9 (KPL)—The People's Supreme Assembly [PSA] of the Lao PDR [Lao People's Democratic Republic], on February 7 held a ceremony to review its 1990 activities, in particular in legislative domain.

Speaking at the ceremony, its vice-president Thongsing Thammavong said that during the year efforts were made to complete the drafting of the national constitution on which extensive discussions were opened for the public across the country. Now the constitution is under preparation to be submitted to the 5th party congress and then to the conference of the PSA for its endorsement.

Also completed and endorsed, he said, were 16 laws such as the criminal and civil laws, and a number of the economics-related laws, in addition to the establishment of the court system and the attorney bodies at the provincial, municipal and district levels. These legal bodies have already assumed their function.

Touching on the PSA's work for 1991, he said that the PSA will continue to make the draft constitution conforming with the general political line and the reality of the country, and to draft some more economic laws such as the commercial, and land laws among others.

Besides, the PSA will open its session to endorse the 1991 state budget and coordinate with the Ministry of Justice in opening short-term training courses on tribunal and attorney affairs at district level and on other matters.

At the ceremony Thongsing Thammavong also posthumously awarded medals of high distinction of the party and state to Mr Thitmouan Saochanthala, the late Standing Committee member of the PSA and former member of the LPRP CC [Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee]. Certificates of congratulations were also presented to a number of personnel.

Saman Vi-gnaket Heads UNESCO Commission Meet

BK0902115591 Vientiane KPL in English 0939 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Vientiane, 9 Feb (KPL)—The National Commission for UNESCO held today its plenary session under the chairmanship of the minister of education and sports who is also president of the National Commission.

The Council of Ministers of the Lao PDR [Lao People's Democratic Republic] appointed last January the new commission having the Minister of Education and Sports M. [Mr.] Saman Vi-gnaket as president, Deputy Minister of Education and Sports M. Khamtan Chanthala and the deputy minister of information and culture, Mr. Paseut Sisanon as vice-president.

The five sub-commissions established are: -the sub-commission for education, -the sub-commission for science, -the sub-commission for social science, -the sub-commission for culture, and -the sub-commission for communication.

The National Commission discussed its role and responsibility and distributed the responsibility among various sub-commissions.

Addressing the meeting the minister of education and sports touched on the international situation and briefed about the foreign policy of the Lao party and government. He also stressed on the activities of the National Commission which according to him, needed to be intensified and improved. Laos became UNESCO member in 1953.

Philippines

Ramos Favors Not Sending Army Engineers to Gulf

HK0802125591 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 8 Feb 91

[By Eloi Aquino of Mobile Unit 12]

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos today reiterated that he will emphasize to the Senate President Aquino's stand of not sending military engineers to the Middle East. During an impromptu interview after celebrating the 55th anniversary of the Armed Forces of the Philippines' [AFP] Corps of Engineers, Ramos said the Department of National Defense-AFP is studying the possible options to send military engineers to the Middle East. The defense chief said the Senate will have a hearing on the issue next Friday and they are expected to announce their position on the same day.

[Begin Ramos recording in English] Now, what we have done in the Department of National Defense and the Armed Forces of the Philippines since early November 1990 is to make studies on the possible options. These are just studies, estimates, especially of manpower, equipment, and especially funding requirements for any kind of package that may be sent later on. But I would like to emphasize that these are merely studies, and we are looking at it [in the] postwar period. Why a postwar period? I do not think there is much that we can add to enhance the current war efforts of the United Nations through the multinational force. We need those units here for our internal security problems. But in the postwar period we are studying possible options. [end recording]

Ramos added that the medical mission in the Middle East can be increased if the host government of Saudi Arabia requests it. This will undergo negotiations in accordance with the bilateral agreement forged between the Philippines and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

8,000 Muslims Call for Mideast Cease-Fire

HK0902064791 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 8 Feb 91

[Text] About 8,000 Muslims held a protest action today that called for a cease-fire in the Middle East war. According to a report, the protesters burned U.S. and Israeli flags and an effigy of U.S. President George Bush.

However, they clarified that they are not anti-U.S. A while ago, they protested the bombing of Iraq by the U.S.-led multinational forces. They are hopeful that the Middle East crisis can still be solved peacefully.

NPA Leader Says Guerrillas Targetting Japanese

HK1102053991 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 11 Feb 91 p 3

[By Manny Mogato]

[Text] Communist guerrillas are planning to kidnap at least five executives of four big Japanese multinational corporations in the country so they can collect ransom money, a military intelligence report said.

The intelligence report, based on the statements given by captured New People's Army (NPA) leader Veronico Bagamasbad to intelligence agents, identified the four corporations as Mitsui and Co. Ltd. Bank of Tokyo Ltd., Marubeni Corp, and C. Itoh and Co. Ltd.

Bagamasbad is the alleged vice commander of the NPA's special operations section, codenamed Edgar Jopson Brigade. When he was arrested on Jan. 23, he admitted masterminding the kidnapping of Mitsui Corporation executive Noboyuki Wakaoji in Laguna in November 1986.

Wakaoji was freed in April 1987 after paying some $3 million to the NPA. He returned to Japan and died a year later.

Bagamasbad said three other Japanese business executives who were on their way to Canlubang Country Club to play golf with Wakaoji on the day the latter was kidnapped were also targets of the NPA.

He said he and his companions could have kidnapped the three Japanese had they been riding in one car.

The military also said the rebels were involved in criminal activities like bank robberies, car thefts and extortion to raise funds for imported weapons.

The criminal activities, code-named Operation Dirty Job, also targetted big businesses in Metro Manila like First General Marketing, Labtech Manufacturing Industries Inc., Panay Distiller Inc., Paramount Vinyl Products Corporation and Rubberworld (Phils.) Inc.

Other communist targets are firms manufacturing pipes and textiles.

"Extortion is now considered as one of the CPP [Communist Party of the Philippines]-NPA main tasks to generate finances in order to keep their struggle alive," the military said.

Another rebel group, codenamed "Tristar" and composed of the regional logistical, financial and medical staff, is now in charge of extortion activities in the metropolis.

Employers and businessmen who fail to comply with the rebels' demands were threatened with death or sabotage of their companies, the military added.

But a member of Alex Boncayao Brigade, the rebel hit squad in the metropolis, denied the rebels' involvement in the illegal and criminal activities, saying the allegations were "mere propaganda" of the military to discredit the rebel movement.

Says NPA, Red Army Involved

HK1102095091 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] The Philippine National Police disclosed today that there are still some Japanese business executives who may be kidnapped for ransom by NPA [New People's Army] rebels. This disclosure was based on the statement of Veronico Bagamasbad, a member of a terroristic group involved in the operation.

Although the suspect did not specify names, he mentioned Marubeni Corporation and Mitsui Company Limited as two of the target companies in the operation. The operation, according to Bagamasbad, will be undertaken by NPA cadres identified as Antonio Lacaba and Alfredo Simbulan, in cooperation with the Japanese Red Army.

Aquino Leaves Fate of U.S. Bases to Negotiators

HK1102112091 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 11 Feb 91

[By Tanny Rodriguez]

[Text] President Corazon Aquino is leaving it up to the Philippine and U.S. panels to decide the fate of the U.S. bases in the country. Tanny Rodriguez reports:

[Begin recording] In a press statement, President Corazon Aquino said that a decision regarding a new relationship between the Philippines and the United States will be disclosed during the negotiations.

Earlier, chief U.S. negotiator Armitage, on his arrival, said that the United States will survive and progress even without maintaining a military base or installation or a single soldier in the Philippines.

The chief executive stressed that, as in previous talks between both panels, national interest will be the major consideration in the discussion. The executive agreement between the Philippines and the United States is due to expire this year.

Manglapus Substitutes for Bases Panel Spokesman

HK1102094591 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 0800 GMT 11 Feb 91

[By Rey Arquiza from the Department of Foreign Affairs; italicized portion in English]

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus has temporarily taken the place of Rafael Alunan as the Philippine panel spokesman in the ongoing bases talks, but did not issue any statement regarding the result of today's bases talks. Almost all the reporters who have been standing by for a briefing were disappointed by Manglapus' announcement that there is nothing to be said because there has been no progress in the talks. However, he reportedly said that Alunan underwent a foot operation. All he managed to tell the reporters was: *Thank you for coming here and goodbye.* But in an impromptu interview, Manglapus said the compensation issue may be discussed tomorrow.

Earlier, Manglapus told U.S. chief negotiator Richard Armitage he believes that an agreement will be reached after the talks.

Support for Enrile's Presidential Bid Analyzed

HK1102040391 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 11 Feb 91 pp 1, 2

[By Managing Editor Teodoro C. Berbano]

[Text] Tuguegarao—Cagayan, valley home to some 700,000 gave favorite son Juan Ponce Enrile a birthday asalto [surprise party] Saturday—and its blessings for his quest for the highest office in the land.

Thousands gathered to meet and greet Enrile, who walked from the Balzain bridge, gateway to the town proper, to the four-century-old San Jacinto church, where a thanksgiving mass was offered. Thousands cheered, feasted on fabulous Ilocano delicacies at the old Cocobank building, where Enrile and his provincemates later danced the night away.

The mood was understandable.

Alfonso R. Reyno Jr., Enrile's chief of staff, said it is not in every generation that Cagayan has a chance to send a son to Malacanang. And Enrile, whom placards all over Tuguegarao described as the *"idolo ng* Cagayan, *pag-asa ng bayan* (idol of Cagayan, hope of the nation)," is *destined* to become president, his provincemates say. The presidency, they add, culminates a career that has been rivaled by few in today's political field.

Born Juanito Faragannan (the middle name he now uses) to a laundry-woman in the sleepy town of Gonzaga, Enrile proved early enough that ambition need not be stifled by poverty and fortune's slings and arrows.

A brilliant student specially gifted in math, Enrile dreamed of becoming an engineer. But an ill-fated courtship changed man and dream, overnight.

Since the object of young Enrile's love was not proficient in math, he gave lessons—with love letters inserted in notebooks. This did not escape the notice of other suitors, who were moneyed and powerful. They laid in wait for Enrile, then stabbed him. The poor suitor had to run for life, jumping from a window, and scampering to the town hall, where he believed he could be helped. He was wrong. The victim was jailed—and brought to court.

This incident, Enrile later recalled, made him vow to forget a career in engineering. He would become a lawyer and serve as counsel for the poor, he said.

The rest reads like a thriller; Enrile sought his father, Don Alfonso Ponce Enrile, a billiant lawyer and scholar. When father finally met son, some say, the young man *demanded* that he be sent to law school.

A lawyer Enrile did become (UP [University of the Philippines], Harvard), a topnotch one. Then he was plucked into government service by President Marcos, eventually serving in many and diverse positions.

Inevitably, Marcos's martial law, which Enrile helped to conceive and implement, and Enrile would be linked, with detractors attributing to him real or perceived abuses or excesses of martial law.

But his camp would quickly point out that it was Enrile who helped many detainees, especially student or youth leaders, by helping secure their freedom. They also say whatever faults were there were committed when Enrile's star was already eclipsed by those of the former first lady and Marcos's omnipotent chief of staff.

Then came EDSA [Epifanio de los Santos Avenue], Enrile's shining moment. Despite countless versions, Enrile's camp says, there can be no blurring the fact that the people *joined* Enrile at EDSA.

Then the joining of the fledging Aquino government, the celebrated breaking away from it, and the local elections of 1987. Enrile led the opposition Grand Alliance for Democracy, and after the other candidates were "defeated" by the computer, and since Joseph Estrada bolted the minority, Enrile was left alone at the Senate to fiscalize the administration. That the Aquino government kept—and keeps—zeroing in on the gentleman from Cagayan showed how effective he was—and is.

Logically, it should be Enrile who should lead the opposition in the 1992 political war, and it is this sentiment which gripped this capital town this weekend, as Cagayan kept toasting the boy who made good.

Yet there are signs that not all is well in Enrile's home turf.

Rodolfo Aguinaldo, ousted from Alimannao *kapitolyo* [capital] on rebellion charges, is not fully convinced that Enrile will run for president. The weekend bash is only a ploy, he says.

Aguinaldo, still the man to beat in the gubernatorial polls, believes there will be a shift to the parliamentary form of government. This explains why Enrile is touching base again with the people of Cagayan, since only by running for assemblyman could he hope to become prime minister, to be *numero uno*, Aguinaldo opined.

Since there is a possibility that local elections might be held long after the congressional elections, Aguinaldo said he would run for assemblyman instead. So, in the event of the approval of a parliamentary system, there is also a chance that Enrile and Aguinaldo just might square off for the right to represent the first district of the province.

Another "agnostic" is Delfin Ting, the maverick mayor who defied Enrile's boys in the last local elections and still won in this pivotal town.

Ting said Enrile and his men have a lot of fence-mending to do in the town and in the province. Ting's brief echoes of charges that Enrile and his camp keep forgetting that they are no longer calling the shots in the government, that they are in the opposition, so they should not expect local officials and their men to come running at the flick of a finger.

If they take Tuguegarao and Cagayan for granted, Enrile is in big trouble, Ting said.

However, Aguinaldo was at the airport, when Enrile planed in with Representative Jose Rono (KBL [New Society Movement], Samar) 9 a.m. Saturday, Aguinaldo also joined the thanksgiving mass.

Ramos on Stepping Up Anti-Rebel Drive in Ilocos

HK1102053191 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 11 Feb 91 p 16

[By Aris Ilagan]

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos said yesterday he will recommend to the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) the deployment of newly acquired MD 520 helicopters to the Ilocos region to step up the military's counterinsurgency operations in the area.

Four MD 520 fighter craft compose the first batch of about 30 helicopters acquired by the country from the United States last year under the AFP modernization program.

Ramos, who visited troops at Camp Valentin Juan in Laoag City over the weekend, was informed by military commanders of the need to dispatch modern helicopters in the area to beef up operations against communist rebels.

Brig. Gen. Ernesto Calupig, Northern Luzon Command chief; Col. Robert Manlongat, commanding officer of the 503rd Army brigade; and Lt. Col. Jose Dalumpines, Ilocos Norte Philippine National Police superintendent, briefed Ramos on counterinsurgency operations in the Ilocos.

They also emphasized the need for helicopters to go after rebels attacking military and police detachments.

They said intensified pursuit operations against rebels must be conducted by strengthening air and ground support.

Ramos said Philippine Air Force [PAF] pilots are testing the effectivity of the MD 520 helicopters, including their use in tactical support to anti-dissident campaign.

He said Ilocos Region has been the main target of harassment and attacks by the New People's Army during the past months, resulting in the killing of military and police members.

The latest attack last Feb. 7 led to the death of Pat. [Patrolman] Quintin Marcos and the wounding of Pat. Rodolfo Bilanguay. The two were among a group of policemen on patrol at Sumalder in Batac when ambushed by about 15 heavily armed communist rebels.

PNP [Philippine National Police] Superintendent Dalumpines said the policemen fought back during the attack and hit at least two rebels who were dragged along by their comrades fleeing to the mountains.

Ramos urged more helicopters to be assigned in the Ilocos after he was informed that PAF Huey helicopters had been pulled out of the region for other missions.

He said there are already 18 MD 520s delivered to the Philippine Air Force by the US government, but their dispatch to regional military commands depends on the assessment of the General Headquarters of the AFP in Camp Aguinaldo.

NPA Kills Former Constabulary, Air Force Men

HK0702035091 Quezon City MALAYA in English 7 Feb 91 p 7

[By Nida Mendoza]

[Text] Suspected New People's Army hitmen gunned down a member of the defunct Philippine Constabulary [PC] yesterday morning in Makati, while unidentified gunmen killed two Philippine Air Force [PAF] men in Pasay City Tuesday night.

Police identified the fatality in the Makati ambush as C2C Mario D. Arano, 27, assigned at the then 266th PC company in Ozamis City. He succumbed to six gunshot wounds in different parts of the body.

Meanwhile, the victims in the Pasay City incident were identified as Sergeants Raymar Ritual, 28, of 1280 Lavanderos St, Sampaloc, Manila, and Alex Mirano, 34, of Barangay Sto Nino, West Bicutan, Tagig. Both were detailed with the PAF Security Command, Villamor Air Base, Pasay City.

Witnesses told police that Arano had just come from the house of one Rosie Bolodo, 29, at 89327 P. Victor St, Guadalupe Viejo, Makati, about 9:05 a.m. and was on board a Taft-bound passenger jeepney when four young looking suspects aboard a white Toyota Crown car with license plate BBF-270, suddenly blocked the jeepney near the corner of Orense and Sgt Yabut Sts, Guadalupe Viejo.

Two of the suspects, armed with .45 caliber pistols, alighted from the car and tried to pull Arano, who was sitting in front.

When Arano resisted, one of the suspects shot him in the right leg and dragged him out of the jeepney.

As Arano identified himself as a soldier, the suspects shouted: "Patayin na yan" ["Go ahead kill him"].

The suspects fled towards EDSA [Epifanio de Los Santos Avenue] after taking Arano's wallet and an envelope.

Police recovered six spent .45 caliber shells from the crime scene.

Six MNLF Rebels Surrender in Southern Palawan

HK0602123891 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 6 Feb 91

[By Eloi Aquino of Mobile Unit 12]

[Text] West Command Chief Brigadier General Raulio Balbas reported today the surrender of six Muslim rebel members of the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] Palawan Revolutionary Committee. According to Balbas, the rebel Muslims who surrendered were turned over to him by Major Florante Macalisang, the commanding officer of the Marine Battalion Landing Team 7 based in Southern Palawan.

It was found that the following Muslim rebels have surrendered to the Western Command CAFGU [Citizens Armed

Forces Geographical Unit] detachment in Sitio Guilingan, Barangay Iraan, Rizal, Palawan: Nazzer Sabdanni, the vice commander of the MNLF Palawan Revolutionary Committee; Sorjaida Sibilao; Laxamana Antanid; Daud Dapdap; Djahina Dapdap; and Helen Hailili.

They surrendered to the authorities one GL rifle with 141 rounds of ammunition and four M-16 armalite rifles.

Major Simplicio Ideya of the 14th Civil Relations Group said that the first two Muslims who surrendered already received a total of P [pesos] 18,000 under the DND [Department of National Defense] Balik Baril [Arms Return] program. This is in exchange for the arms they have surrendered and an assistance for them to be able to start a new life. Aside from this, the same two Muslims will receive other farming assistance. The other four Muslims who surrendered will also receive the same benefits under the National Reconciliation and Development Program to pave the way for their return to the fold of society and become productive citizens of the country.

Meanwhile, General Balbas commended the Philippine Marines and the CAFGU for their compelling efforts in the surrender of Muslim rebels. Major Macalisang also said that many others are due to surrender.

16 Muslim Rebels Surrender in Zamboanga

HK0602054291 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Sixteen Moro Islamic Liberation Front [MILF] members surrendered at the Philippine National Police [PNP] Metropolitan District Command in Zamboanga City, Zamboanga del Sur. The group was led by (Mohammad Hepe), alias Commander Lapu-Lapu. Based on the report that reached PNP spokesman Superintendent Chris Maralit's office in Camp Crame, the surrendering rebels turned in high-powered firearms as they gave up their armed struggle against the government. Lieutenant Colonel Carlos Pena welcomed them. The Muslim rebels took the oath of allegiance to the Constitution and the government. The report also attributes the MILF members' demoralization to the crisis in the organization caused by the lack of support from their Muslim brothers in the Middle East who are more concerned with the Gulf war.

Two Muslim Rebels Killed in Basilan Encounter

HK0902084091 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Two Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] rebels, believed to be among the kidnappers of two sisters in Basilan, were killed by responding authorities. Here is Eloi Aquino with the details:

[Begin recording] This was learned today from the Armed Forces of the Philipppines Headquarters in Camp Aguinaldo. Although the identities of the slain rebels were not yet known, they were posivitely identified as being among the MNLF rebels who kidnapped sisters Arlene and Pilar Provido, both single and residents of barangay Abra Kolonia, Lamitan, Basilan. The report said that the sisters were abducted by about 20 Muslim rebels at 1400 [0600 GMT] yesterday for unknown reasons. In this connection, men belonging to the 464th PNP [Philippine National Police] Company immediately responded and cornered the kidnappers in Cagayan, Puguran, in the same province. A 15-minute gunfight ensued forcing the rebels to retreat to a mountainous area. Government troops launched a clearing operation and found the bodies of the two dead Muslim rebels. The kidnappers released one of the sisters before the gunfight began, but the older sister, Arlene, is still in the hands of the rebels. There was no report of casualties on the government side. [end recording]

Exiled Communist Sison Can Reapply for Asylum

HK0602051891 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 6 Feb 91 p 3

[By Arthur I. Bariuad and Merlinda Manalo]

[Text] Exiled Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] founder Jose Maria Sison can still reapply for political asylum in the Netherlands despite the rejection of his first appeal, a spokesman for the Dutch embassy yesterday said.

Art Vegdegal, First Secretary of the Dutch Embassy, said Sison was still entitled to another appeal. He pointed out that it would be the last for him as dictated by the rules on the granting of political asylum.

He explained that an applicant for political asylum in his country could appeal twice before he is asked to leave voluntarily or be deported to his country of origin.

In July last year, the Dutch government rejected the application of Sison for political asylum upon request of the Philippine government.

Sison appealed before the country's highest tribunal, but this was rejected anew by the Dutch government, according to diplomatic sources.

Sources also said that Sison had been hopping from one European city to another as a result of the rejection of his first appeal, but Vegdegal stressed that if the rules could be made as the basis, Sison could still stay legally in Utrecht, where he has been living in exile, until after the rejection of his second appeal.

Meanwhile, Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon yesterday revealed that the ultimate goal of the ongoing peace talks with leftist rebels was the legalization of the CPP.

Under Republic Act No. 1700, the CPP and its New People's Army (NPA) have been outlawed by the government.

But Drilon, who is also chairman of the Cabinet Cluster on national security, said that the Aquino administration is open to the proposal of seeking a congressional amendment to legalize the outlawed organization.

"The legalization of the CPP is the ultimate goal of the ongoing peace process. The laying down of arms may come later," Drilon said during a meeting with newspaper columnists at the Makati Chef Restaurant.

Muslim Region Seeks ICO Observer Status

HK0402051291 Quezon City MALAYA in English 4 Feb 91 p 2

[By Ellen Tordesillas]

[Text] The Autonomous Region for Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) will apply for observer status in the Organization of Islamic Conference [OIC] to counter the propaganda campaign of the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] against the Philippine government among Muslim countries, an official document shows.

In a memorandum for Foreign Secretary Raul S. Manglapus, Press Undersecretary Paulino Alvarez outlined the projects to be undertaken prior to and during the OIC summit at Dakar, Senegal and foreign ministerial meeting at Ankara, Turkey this year.

"Efforts will be made to secure an invitation of the ARMM officers to the conference and secure for the ARMM observer status," Alvarez said.

Sen. Leticia Sahani (LDP) [Struggle of Philippine Democrats], chairman of Senate foreign relations committee, and Rep. Jose de Venecia (LDP, Pangasinan), her counterpart in the House, said they support the project as long as it conforms with the guidelines of the OIC.

The secessionist MNLF, which has used its observer status in the OIC to criticize the Philippine government's treatment of Muslims in the country, has been lobbying to be a regular member of the conference. Only states can become members of the influential 46-member body, however.

No date has yet been set for the OIC Senegal and Turkey meetings.

Alvarez also said another objective of the propaganda campaign among Muslim countries is to persuade the OIC secretariat not to include in the agenda discussion on the Muslims in Southern Philippines as "the problem is a domestic one and should be solved within the purview of its constitutional process."

Alvarez proposed that several groups of three to four members each will be sent to selected Asian and Middle East countries to explain the Philippine position.

Last year, several groups headed by Muslim senators and politicians also went to several Middle East countries to lobby against the MNLF membership bid and to request delegation in the agenda of Muslim Filipinos prior to the OIC ministerial meeting in Egypt. The meeting, however, was cut short by the Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait by Iraq.

Thailand

Chatchai: Workers To Help Rebuild Middle East

BK1002033691 Bangkok THE NATION in English 10 Feb 91 p A3

[Text] Thailand will be able to contribute greatly to the restoration of the Middle East after the Gulf War by sending a large number of workers there, Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan said yesterday.

The premier, speaking during a party he hosted for reporters at his Ratchakhru residence last night, estimated that up to 500,000 Thais would go to the Middle East for various jobs after the war is over.

Chatchai said he expected the war to end very soon after the allied force's heavy bombardment against Iraq.

The Labour Department yesterday said a Thai worker was killed in a road accident in Saudi Arabia's northwestern town of Tabuk about three weeks ago.

Labour Director General Prasong Rananan said Samphan Kamon died when a truck in which he and a group of Bangladeshi colleagues were riding overturned. Three other Bangladeshis were killed in the same accident.

Samphan's body is still being kept at a Tabuk hospital awaiting to be sent back to Thailand for funeral rites, the director general said.

There are about 130,000 Thai workers in Saudi Arabia, which is under threat of Iraqi attacks because of its active partipation in the US-led multinational forces fighting to outst Iraq from Kuwait.

At present, only 128 Thai workers are being sheltered in four evacuation centres set up by the Thai government as part of a planned repatriation in case of an emergency, according to the director general.

At the height of the Iraqi missile attacks against Saudi Arabia at the beginning of the Gulf War, more than 2,000 Thai workers sought shelter in the camps.

But most of them have already returned to work after the Iraqi missile attacks proved ineffective in inflicting casualties and damage to the desert kingdom. The majority of Thai workers are also reluctant to leave their well-paid jobs for which they had paid large sums of money to job placement agencies.

Deputy Premier on South Muslims Fighting for Iraq

BK0902022991 Bangkok THE NATION in English 9 Feb 91 p A5

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Gen Athit Kamlang-ek yesterday confirmed that there have been leaflets urging Muslims in southern Thailand to fight for Iraq against the U.S.-led coalition forces in the Gulf War.

Recently, the Thai-language leaflets were reportedly distributed by Party Islam Malaysia (PAS) to recruit Thai

Muslim volunteers to fight for Iraq. PAS Information Chief Haji Subky Latiff, however, denied the reports.

Athit said he had been informed about the matter, but added that the contents of the leaflets did not call for terrorist action against Western interests in Thailand.

"I can say that the leaflets would not have any effect. There is no need to pay attention to them. However, security measures have been stepped up already," he said.

He said those who distributed the leaflets were just a handful of people and did not represent the majority of southern Thai Muslims.

Deputy Supreme Commander Gen Phichit Kullawanit, addressing 75 southern Muslim leaders participating in a seminar on national security, urged southern Muslims to remain neutral in the Gulf War

Muslim Groups Call for Pro-Iraq Demonstration

BK1002031491 Bangkok THE NATION in English 10 Feb 91 p A1

[By Prayuth Siwayowirot]

[Text] Songkhla—Muslim fundamentalist groups have distributed circulars to community leaders in four southern provinces calling for a mass demonstration in support of Iraq in the provincial seat of Yala next Saturday [16 February], security sources said.

The sources said hundreds of copies of the letters had been sent to Muslim community leaders in Yala, Narathiwat, Pattani and Satun by the little-known Unity of People in South Thailand (UPST).

Another group, calling itself the Muslim Brotherhood, has also sent out circulars to Muslim leaders urging them to demonstrate at Ban Malayu-Bangkok in Tambon Sateng of Yala's Muang district.

Provincial authorities are keeping a close watch on the movements of UPST and the Muslim Brotherhood but will not try to disrupt the planned demonstration, they said.

The Fourth Army Region, in charge of security in the South, and provincial authorities and police are intensifying security measures as they expect some Muslim fundamentalists could carry out terrorist attacks.

Pro-Iraqi terrorist groups have threatened to attack the interests of Israel and countries participating in the war against Iraq, particularly the United States and Britain.

The UPST circular obtained by THE NATION urged Thai Muslims in the four predominantly-Muslim provinces to pray for and publicly show their support for Iraq in its war against US-led multinational forces trying to dislodge it from Kuwait.

"The superpowers and their allies are trying to create divisiveness among the Muslim nations and protect the Jewish state of Israel under the pretext of liberating Kuwait," the letter said.

"We will closely monitor whether you (Muslim leaders) cooperate with us," it said.

—In Bangkok, more than 10,000 people attended an open-air, free concert at Lumphini Park, featuring well-known local rock groups, including Caravan and Carabao, calling for peace in the Persian Gulf.

The concert was organized jointly by Caravan band leader Surachai Chanthimathon and the D-Day Co.

Bomb Threat at U.S. Embassy; 90 Gulf Returnees

BK0902030791 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 9 Feb 91 p 3

[Text] Police bomb disposal experts searched the United States Embassy compound yesterday after a bomb threat was made by telephone to the embassy yesterday afternoon.

Nothing suspicious was found.

—Ninety Thai workers were flown back from Saudi Arabia yesterday.

The latest batch, workers of the Daelim Construction and Saudi Specialist Construction companies, brought the total number of returnees since the outbreak of the Gulf war to 686.

One of the returnees, Chit Munphrom, said Thai workers did not want to leave Saudi Arabia at first. But when Iraqi missiles began to hit Riyadh, they became frightened and asked to be sent home, he said.

Police Deport 5 Suspected Arab Terrorists

BK0902015791 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 9 Feb 91 p 3

[Text] Immigration Police appear to have finally succeeded in deporting five Arabs they had detained as terrorist suspects.

Four of the suspects—two Iraqis and two Jordanians—were put on board a Thai Airways International flight to Athens on Thursday night.

The fifth, an Iraqi identified on a forged British passport as James Williams, was flown to Vienna.

The five were detained last month at the height of a terrorist alert following the outbreak of the Gulf war.

Police last week attempted to send two of the suspects to Nepal but both were flown back after Kathmandu refused them entry.

Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Suchinda Khraprayun, meanwhile, said that Thai security authorities had taken adequate precautions to prevent terrorist activities in the kingdom.

There has been close cooperation and coordination between the police and the military, he said.

Despite terrorist attacks elsewhere, including the mortar attack on official residence of the British prime minister in London Thursday, Gen Suchinda said there had been no indications of similar incidents here.

Security precautions at various foreign embassies and diplomats' residences suspected to be marked for attacks will be maintained unless there are changes in the Gulf situation, he added.

Chatchai Contacting Cambodian Factions on Meeting

BK1102122791 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] Prime Minister's Office spokesman M.R. Pridiyathon Thewakun said the prime minister today had a discussion with Prince Norodom Ranariddh, member of the Supreme National Council [SNC], representing Prince Norodom Sihanouk's faction.

It is quite certain that the prime minister will meet Khieu Samphan, representative of the Khmer Rouge, on Wednesday, 13 February, at the Regent Hotel in Bangkok. The prime minister is likely to meet Son Sann of the Khmer Serei on Thursday, and Hun Sen, leader of the Heng Samrin regime, on Friday in Bangkok.

The spokesman said the prime minister will persuade the Cambodian factions to attend the SNC meeting urged by Indonesia and France, the cochairmen of the International Conference on Cambodia. At the initial stage, the four Cambodian factions are expected to reach an agreement on the composition of the SNC, the cease-fire, disarmament, and finally on the general elections to be held in Cambodia.

Talks With Ranariddh Detailed

BK1102140191 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 11 Feb 91

[Text] During the meeting between Prince Norodom Ranariddh, Prince Sihanouk's son, and the prime minister today, the prime minister promised to invite leaders of the four Khmer factions for talks separately in Thailand before the meeting of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia and also proposed the establishment of a working group to consider the renovation of the infrastructure in Cambodia. M.R. Pridiyathon Thewakun, spokesman of the Prime Minister's Office, briefed reporters on the results of the meeting:

[Begin Pridiyathon recording] The prime minister will persuade the four factions to attend the SNC meeting. The SNC meeting will be held among the Khmer factions, and will not be held in Thailand. Prince Norodom Ranariddh did not object to this. The prime minister will talk with the other three factions. In addition to this issue, Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan also offered another idea, considered to be very important. He proposed that while the SNC continues to meet to discuss a peace agreement, he wanted the SNC to establish a working group to consider the reconstruction of the existing infrastructure in Cambodia, such as highways, railroads, and airports. There are already highways, railroads, and airports in Cambodia, but this infrastructure needs reconstruction work. So, he asked the SNC to establish a working group. Prince Norodom Ranariddh said that he fully supported this idea.

Prime Minister General Chatchai said that if this working group is established, he would help coordinate with Japanese Prime Minister Kaifu to obtain Japanese funding for the work of reconstructing the existing Cambodian infrastructure. He thought that this idea should be acceptable to all four Khmer factions. The idea is aimed at rebuilding the infrastructure, such as highways or railroads, in all areas of Cambodia regardless of which group holds it. The working group will consider which highways, railroads, airports, or electrical power systems should be repaired. The prime minister said that if they agreed with this idea, he would help ask Japan to fund the project. In addition, the United Nations has provided assistance for this work. [end recording]

Executives Discuss Aviation Pact With U.S.

BK1102023591 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 11 Feb 91 p 18

[By Imtiaz Muqbil]

[Text] Last week's meeting between senior executives of the Thai tourism industry and the Transport and Communications Ministry to discus the US-Thai aviation pact was the first of its kind and has set a broad precedent for the way bilateral air traffic rights talks are likely to be approached.

Its basic conclusion was that the executives understand the Thai policy towards the talks but not all agree with it.

They accept all the efforts made by the Aviation Department to promote Bangkok as the aviation hub of Asia, allow in more scheduled and charter airlines, and liberalise air traffic agreements. But many feel, some quite strongly, that the Thai negotiators' blueprint on the US talks not only contradicts the aviation liberalisation policies but could harm tourism from North America while raising it from Northeast Asia.

The ministry's Deputy Permanent Secretary, Mahidon Chanthrangkun, and aviation Department Deputy Director-General Rungrot Siprasoetsuk, the top two Thai aviation negotiators, spent more than an hour briefing general managers of seven top Bangkok hotels and the heads of six major tour operators on why the Thai policy would not jeopardise tourism to Thailand.

They insisted Thailand was keen to negotiate a deal with the US and did not want to oust United, Northwest, Delta and Federal Express from flying to Thailand. But they noted that there had to be parity between the frequencies of the US and Thai airlines.

They also pointed out that there was no personal interest involved and the negotiating team was only following the policies laid down by a senior-level air traffic rights negotiating committee chaired by Communciations Permanent Secretary Siphum Sukhanet.

Some general managers went along with the official position. Peter Hollaus, general manager of the Royal Orchid Sheraton, said: "They want an eye for an eye, which is only fair. I am satisfied they are on the right track."

Others were not sure. Bill Black, general manager of the Regent Hotel, said: "They presented their case very strongly, the essence being that if the agreement is terminated, there would be no impact on tourism to Thailand. Do I accept that? I don't know. What I do know is that there is a very strong stalemate."

But some were opposed. David Wiig, genral manager of the Landmark Hotel, said: "We all know that tourism does not happen by itself. It has to be promoted, and the US airlines have bigger budgets than we do. If they stop or cut back their flights, who is going to promote Thailand in what is possibly the world's biggest tourism market?"

But tour operators were the most vocal. Chan Phiraphokhin, managing director of Saim Express, a major handler of Japanese business, did not agree that more seat capacity on the Tokyo-Bangkok sector automatically would mean more Japanese tourists.

He noted that while the major Japanese tour wholesalers like the Japan Travel Bureau and Kinki Nippon would get most of the business, bookings would decline from the smaller agents outside the main urban centres, who are being offered fares on the US airlines that are 30,000 yen cheaper than the Thai Airways International fare.

Another tour operator, who declined to be identified, said all the technicalities and diplomatic horse-trading still did not couch the fact that the Thais were seeking to cut back US airlines' frequencies to Thailand.

He said he was willing to accept the position that the pact was unfair to Thailand but, instead of cutting back the US flights, it might be better to freeze them at current levels for the next few years and then renegotiate the deal in a way that is fair to all.

"They (the aviation negotiators) also said we have to try to help the national carrier which has been losing its market share. But whose fault is that? It's THAI's own fault.

"THAI is in the best possible position to get the business. Its fuel costs are the same and its staff costs are way, way below the US airlines. So why is it being beaten by them? With some efficient management, they should be able to get their fair share of the market without outside help," the operator said.

"If we cut back the US airlines' flights, we will be killing the goose laying the golden egg."

Some private-sector executives were miffed by the Thai refusal to call for the talks.

"They say they are flexible and want to talk. But they don't want to call the talks. So how are we going to get this thing moving" asked one general manager.

Manop Song-im, general manager of Pacific Leisure, said the aviation officials asked the opponents to prove with figures their claim that tourism would be affected, but "nobody was able to come up with any."

Representatives of the Tourism Authority of Thailand [TAT] were present but said nothing. Nor did Thai Hotels' Association president Chatuphon Sihanatkhatthakun. Association of Thai Travel Agents president Roberto Chotikasathian played the peacemaker, giving the aviation officials the benefit of the doubt, a position that one general manager said was more politically related indeference to Mr Roberto's desire not to rock the boat.

Mr Rungrot admitted later that the exchange had been beneficial for the aviation side, too.

"We understand their position a lot better now," he said. "it was very good."

Still, the tourism industry, for the first time, had a say in what was previously a highly cloistered issue. Just as it spoke out on charter policies six years ago, said one operator, so too can it now seek explanations when it feels its interests are not being served.

Indeed, some operators and general managers were blunt enough to ask questions that no TAT official would ever dare to. The Aviation Department has now a new area of accountability to consider—the very large and increasingly vocal private sector.

Either way, there are signs that the temporary operating permits under which the US airlines are operating 38 weekly flights to Thailand will be discussed at senior government levels this week.

If the permit is extended for another six months, as appears likely, THAI will be able to proceed with its plan to start a thrice-weekly MD-11 service from Seoul to Los Angeles this summer. The flights were to have started in June but will be put off owing to delayed aircraft delivery.

In addition, THAI will maintain its daily flights to Seattle and Toronto, four weeekly via Tokyo and three weekly via Taipei.

Foreign Minister Meets European Parliamentarians

BK0802142791 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 8 Feb 91

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr. Athit Urairat reported after meeting with representatives of the European Parliament today that the EC agreed with Thailand about helping to develop Cambodia to prepare the country for the return of Cambodian refugees.

The foreign minister said he spoke with the EC parliamentarians about Cambodia, Burma, and trade protectionism involving farm products. Concerning help for Cambodia, the EC agreed there should be a contribution to help

Cambodia develop its agricultural and industrial system to accomodate Cambodian refugees returning to their country. Thailand will also benefit later on from that development.

The foreign minister said that he will meet Prince Norodom Ranariddh on Monday [11 February] for a discussion aimed at paving the way for a meeting soon of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia.

Commerce Minister Meets GATT Chief in Geneva

BK0902045291 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on met GATT Secretary General Arthur Dunkel in Geneva, following his participation in the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland last week.

Thailand has stated her keen interest in pursuing the success of the GATT Uruguay Round.

The minister told reporters upon returning to Thailand on Wednesday [6 February] that he consulted the GATT secretary general on issues and problems that stall the negotiations in the Uruguay Round.

Mr. Amaret pointed out to the GATT secretary general that Thailand, as a major exporter of agricultural products, attaches great importance on the success of the negotiations with high hope that heavy subsidies on agricultural production in rich countries can be done away with. Agricultural products from Thailand and other developing countries stand a better chance of competing in the world market if subsidization programs in developed countries are scrapped.

3 Foreigners Arrested, 3.9 Kg of Heroin Seized

BK0902032991 Bangkok THE NATION in English 9 Feb 91 p A3

[Text] Customs officials arrested three foreigners at Bangkok International Airport and seized 3.9 kilogrammes of heroin on Thursday and yesterday.

The Customs Department said yesterday that its officials arrested Jose Antonio Castilla Bejar, 33, from Spain while he was preparing to board an Air France flight to Paris at about 8.30 pm on Thursday and seized two bags of heroin weighing 0.85 kilogramme.

About 30 minutes later, another group of officials found 14 bags of heroin weighing about 1.45 kilogrammes hidden in the suitcase of a Bugeruab, Emeka Dele Onyelobi, 26. The man was arrested before he boarded a KLM flight to Nigeria, according to the department.

It said customs officials yesterday arrested an Australian, Peter Bojko, 28, at the airport after finding four bags of heroin weighing about 1.6 kilogrammes tied around his waist.

The heroin seized during the past two days was estimated at Bt1 million [baht] worth locally and could be sold by up to Bt100 million overseas.

Vietnam

Army Daily on Gulf War; Criticizes Allies

BK1102061591 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 8 Feb 91

[QUAN DOI NHAN DAN Commentary: "How Will the Gulf War Continue To Take Place"—date not given]

[Text] More than three weeks have elapsed since the United States and allied forces launched the so-called Desert Storm operation to attack Iraq and its forces in Kuwait. This unprecedented regional war that is hidden under the legal pretext of complying with a United Nations Resolution, is staged on a scale a rarely seen.

The U.S.-led multinational expeditionary forces have used all kinds of the most modern military equipment and materiel of the most terribly destructive kind, which has cost hundreds of billions of dollars, seemingly to crush a small country of about 17 million people.

Although they have claimed to attack only strategic and military positions of the enemy, the allied forces have in fact attacked all kinds of places, from airfields, ports, the presidential palace, state agencies, scientific nuclear research installations, oil refinery factories, electric power and water plants to schools, hospitals, cultural projects and population centers. They have dumped bombs on old people, women, children and holy Islamic lands. They have strafed pedestrians in streets, valleys, and on village roads. They have also attacked oil tankers and petrochemical reserves in the Persian Gulf, spilling millions of tonnes of oil over hundreds of square kilometers, causing huge economic losses to Iraq and ecological pollution to many rim countries.

To sum up, destructive acts of these multinational forces have gone too far and have exceeded the limits authorized by UN resolutions, violating the charter of this international organization as well as other international laws and conventions. Yet the U.S. press has quoted U.S. officials as quietly admitting among themselves that even though the allied forces have won some definite victories, basically Iraq's military machinery still exists. About 65 percent of Iraq's airplanes are still operating. Only eight of the fixed Scud missile launching pads have been sufficiently paralyzed and there is no evidence that the mobile launching pads of these missiles have been attacked.

President Saddam Husayn still continues to communicate with his forces. He is even present on the battle front to motivate his troops and command the fight. Internally, Iraq remains stable and calm and is preparing carefully for a long fight. As yet, broad segments of public opinion have held that the U.S. and allied forces have failed to fight and win quickly. The Iraqi forces have not only remained basically in tact but have also started to counterattack and win initiative. Evidence of this initiative was the surprise attack spearheaded by many Iraqi tank and armor units across Kuwait's border with Saudi Arabia, reaching 20 km deep into Saudi Arabian territory in order to assault the coastal city of Khafji; Iraqi troops fought against enemy troops and tanks against enemy tanks, controlling the city for 3 days from 29 to 31 January 1991.

Based on the positions and strengths of both sides, battlefield analysts and observers have put forth the following estimates and possibilities: The United States and allied forces might continue to use their air forces, missiles, and artillery to attack Iraq and its forces in Kuwait even more fiercely, more broadly, and more comprehensively. They have not even ruled out the use of weapons of mass destruction. They have built up their troops, war materiel, and supplies in the battle zone to prepare for a ground attack by marines and parachutists with the support of air and naval forces and artillery guns. This ground attack was planned long ago by U.S. and allied forces but they have to wait for an appropriate time.

The United States has forced Japan and Germany to contribute more money to the war. It has requested that Japan contribute $9 billion more, pressed Great Britain, Spain, and Turkey to let B-52 aircraft take off from their military bases to fight Iraq, asked France's permission for B-52 aircraft to use French airspace, and demanded landing rights from other countries so that its aircraft can be refuelled.

Particularly, the United States is wooing and urging Turkey to open a battlefront from this country, scheming to draw NATO into the battle. Yet, the U.S. and allied forces are still seeking ways to restrain Israel from engaging in the battle, by giving Israel aid worth of tens of billions of dollars in order to persuade Israel not to retaliate against Iraq's missile attacks. This is to avoid disadvantages for the United States and its allies and to prevent the Arab world, that has always hated Israeli aggression, from turning around and supporting Iraq more vigorously, and from abandoning its alliance with the United States.

As for its part, when being strongly attacked, Iraq will on the one hand counterattack more fiercely, as it recently did. On the other, Iraq will capitalize on its advantages, including its infantry and experiences accumulated during the previous eight years of war against Iran, in using all kinds of weapons and potentials on hand, including chemical and biological weapons, to fight step by step, element by element, and on each battlefront, attacking the enemy's critical positions including a strong attack on Saudi Arabia and a stronger assault on Israel, forcing the latter country to engage in combat.

Moreover, those Arabs sympathizing with Iraq and the anti-American and Israeli cause in many places in the world will stage many new forms of struggle, such as protesting demonstrations or attacks on U.S. and allied forces.

As the Gulf war risks escalate and increasingly affect the regional and international situation in many respects, the anti-war movement to demand peace, a cease-fire, and a solution to the crisis has spread throughout the world in the recent past. In the days ahead, it will develop even more vigorously, more intensively, and on an even larger scale, attracting the participation of millions of people all over the world.

Along with this movement, the effort to seek negotiations, which has been and is still being carried out by many countries around the world such as the Soviet Union, Cuba, China, India, the nonaligned movement, Iran, five Northern African countries and Pakistan, and even the efforts of some progressives in France and the EEC has aimed at bringing both sides to the negotiation table in order to end the war.

It is obvious that the United States and its allies cannot defeat Iraq quickly. Iraq has compelled the enemy to fight for a long time with more losses than successes, while also isolating itself in the world and plunging deeper into the path of overriding the limits of UN resolutions. This has frustrated the American people and allied troops and discontented the international public.

The people who love peace, freedom and justice in the world want an early end to this horrible and unjustified war.

Vietnamese in Iraq Mostly Medical Workers

BK0902093291 Hong Kong AFP in English 0903 GMT 9 Feb 91

[TEXT] Hanoi, Feb 9 (AFP)—Most of the some 2,000 Vietnamese still in Iraq are doctors and nurses working in Iraqi hospitals, a Vietnamese official said Saturday.

"To my knowledge, there have been no Vietnamese victims in the conflict so far," the official added.

About 16,000 Vietnamese were working in Iraq under bilateral accords before the Gulf crisis erupted, officials have said.

Most were repatriated before hostilities broke out on January 17, the sources said.

Vietnam, which has good relations with Baghdad, has called on Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait, but in recent days has criticized the United States for initiating the war.

Publication Cooperation With USSR Reviewed

BK0802153791 Hanoi VNA in English 1505 GMT 8 Feb 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 8—Over the past 10 years, the number of Vietnamese units cooperating with the Soviet Union in publication work has increased from two to 24.

The Soviet Union has given financial assistance to Vietnam for the repair and enlargement of the Tran Phu Printing House in Ho Chi Minh city with a capacity of 10 billion pages a year. This project began in 1986 and will be completed in 1995.

The two countries have cooperated in the mutual translation of Soviet and Vietnamese books, exchange of bibliographies, organisation of book fairs, etc. Each year in the past 10 years, Vietnam has translated and published from 30 to 70 Soviet books totalling 500,000 to 700,000 copies. Soviet publishing houses in the said period translated and published more than 300 Vietnamese books in Russian and other languages of the U.S.S.R., totalling 14 million copies.

Sino-Vietnamese Friendship Activities Reported

BK0902151691 Hanoi VNA in English 1458 GMT 9 Feb 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb 9—A get-together was arranged here today by the Vietnam-China Friendship Association on the occasion of the 41st anniversary of the establishment of the Sino-Vietnamese diplomatic relations and the traditional lunar new year festival of the two countries.

Trinh Ngoc Thai, vice-president of the Union of Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organizations, representatives of the Foreign Ministry and other public offices here, and Chinese Ambassador to Vietnam Zhang Dewei were among those present at the function.

Nguyen Chi Dzung, vice-president of the Vietnam-China Friendship Association, spoke about the friendly relations between the two peoples over the past 40 years, hailed the achievements recorded by the Chinese people in building their country, and wished the Chinese as well as the Vietnamese a happy new year.

Cambodian Ambassador on Cooperation With Vietnam

BK1002103391 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0015 GMT 10 Feb 91

[Interview with departing Cambodian Ambassador Tep Hen by station correspondent; date, place not given—recorded in Cambodian fading into Vietnamese translation]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted]

[Correspondent] What is your appraisal of the results of cooperation between the two countries during the past years?

[Ambassador Tep Hen] Since the treaty of peace, friendship, and cooperation signed between Vietnam and Cambodia on 18 February 1979 to consolidate and develop the traditional friendship and solidarity between the two parties and peoples, cooperation in various fields has increased and scored fruitful results. Stemming from the common interests of the two nations, I believe that after the Cambodian issue is settled, cooperation between the two nations will continue with better results especially in the economic and national defense domains. Vietnam has provided and will continue to provide Cambodia with great assistance to help the country protect its revolutionary gains and restore its national economy.

[Correspondent] Would you please express your impression on your mission to Vietnam and the Vietnam-Cambodia relations in the future?

[Tep Hen] I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the Vietnamese party, government, and people for their consistent spiritual and material support and assistance extended to me during my mission in Vietnam, thereby creating favorable conditions for me to fulfill my duties here. Indeed, I would like to say that I have many profoundly good impressions from my 5-year mission in Vietnam, especially the wholehearted support and assistance given me by many party and state agencies as well as mass organizations. I would like to specifically express my thanks to the Vietnamese scientists who provided me—in the capacity of a Cambodian scientist—with consistent valuable assistance. Working with the authorities in many Vietnamese provinces, I gained a better understanding of the significance of the special relations between the two nations. I have also understood the pure, brilliant sentiments of Vietnam-Cambodia relations as well as the Vietnam- Cambodia-Laos relationship. Last but not least, I would like to thank the Voice of Vietnam for allowing me to make this general impression, and again thank you very much.

Do Muoi Receives Bank of Thailand Delegation

BK0902071791 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1140 GMT 8 Feb 91

[Text] On the afternoon of 7 February Do Muoi, chairman of the Council of Ministers, received at the Presidential Palace a delegation of the Bangkok Bank of Thailand led by Mr Chatri Sophonpanich, chairman of the bank, which has paid a working visit to our country at the invitation of the Vietnam state bank.

Deputy governor of the state bank Le Van Chau was also present at the reception. Mr. Chatri Sophonpanich thanked Chairman Do Muoi and the Vietnamese Government for creating favorable conditions for the delegation to visit Vietnam so it can seek and understand the economic development policy and plan, and the possibility of cooperation and investment in banking between Vietnam and Thailand in the years to come.

Chairman Do Muoi introduced to the delegation the open-door policy of the Vietnamese Government in the renovation process for national construction. Vietnam with its rich potentials in terms of natural resources and labor is ready to welcome joint business with countries in the region and the world on condition of mutual benefits and non-violation of each other's sovereignty in accordance with the foreign investment law.

The chairman expected that after this working visit the Bangkok bank would have relations of positive cooperation and joint business with Vietnam so as to contribute to expanding friendship between Vietnam and Thailand and to building a Southeast Asian zone of peace, stability, and prosperity.

Anti-Goods Smuggling Campaign Results Reviewed

BK1102060791 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 8 Feb 91

[By Pham Minh Vy]

[Summary] Goods smuggling in Vietnam, especially in southern provinces, has been carried out for many years. Most of the smuggled goods include foreign cigarettes, liquor, beer, motorcyles, electronics items, food, clothes, and cosmetics. "Hundreds of millions of dollars in foreign currencies and a large volume of gold were used to purchase these goods. In addition, many antique pieces and a huge volume of precious stones, mineral ores, grain, and aquatic products were illegally shipped abroad in exchange for these smuggled goods."

Goods smuggling has become a serious problem since it has penetrated deeply into various state agencies and economic establishments. This has had an adverse effect on the national economy and disturbances to the market.

"In the face of this situation, the Council of Ministers in August 1990 issued an order on opposing goods smuggling in close association with the struggle against corruption and waste nationwide." The order called for efforts by sectors, agencies, and branches to strive to urgently stop this practice so as to contribute to restoring the economic and social order. It also said that the struggle against goods smuggling should be carried out along with efforts to promote the use of homemade goods.

According to the specialized committee on anti-goods smuggling in southern Vietnam, the campaign has scored encouraging results. "During the 4 months of implementing the campaign, 39,086 cases of goods smuggling, illegal trading of foreign goods, and transporting goods illegally across the broder were discovered. The authorities confiscated goods worth more than 67.7 billion dong, about U.S. $319,600 and $40,000 worth of other foreign currencies in cash, and more than 28 kg of gold."

Appraising the anti-goods smuggling campaign during the past four months, the committee noted remarkable improvement in the task, especially at the border areas, thus encouraging agencies and individuals participating in the campaign, winning the people's confidence in the authorities, and discouraging the smuggling rings. It is noted, however, that goods smuggling is still going on in a more complicated fashion, especially in anticipation of the upcoming Lunar New Year Festival. As a result, the struggle against goods smuggling will be more difficult and decisive in the days ahead. Nevertheless, if the people lend a hand to the authorities, the campaign will be crowned with splendid success.

Do Muoi Pays Visit to Lam Dong Province

BK0802155791 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] During his working tour of the southern provinces, Do Muoi, chairman of the Council of Ministers, paid a working visit to Lam Dong. As in his visit to other Central Highlands provinces and the northern mountain provinces of Lang Son, Cao Bang, and Son La, in this visit the chairman was accompanied by Hoang Duc Nghi, minister in charge of the Office for Mountain Regions and Nationalities, and the leaders of the Ministries of Agriculture and Food Industry, Heavy Industry, Forestry, Public Health, and Education and Training.

Chairman Do Muoi and officials of the ministries concerned made this visit to survey the socioeconomic situation of the Central Highlands ethnic minorities in Lam Dong Province for the formulation of a socioeconomic strategy for the Central Highlands and northern mountain provinces for the 1991-95 period and up to the year 2000.

With Nguyen Xuan Du, secretary of the Lam Dong Provincial Party Committee, and Trinh Khiet, chairman of the Provincial People's Committee, serving as their guides, Chairman Do Muoi and his party toured a number of local production and social establishments. At the Vietnam Union of Mulberry, Silkworm, and Silk Enterprises, Chairman Do Muoi was briefed by the union's general director, Nguyen Van, on the status of production and trading activities of the Vietnamese mulberry, silkworm, and silk industry over the past five years, since its founding in December 1985. Chairman Do Muoi and his party also visited the August Silk Reeling Mill, the Automatic Silk Reeling Mill, the mulberry area of Bao Loc, and some families who excelled in mulberry and silkworm farming and in garden economy at Kohinda State Farm and Loc An Village, Bao Loc District.

At the mulberry and silkworm state farms and the silk reeling mills, Chairman Do Muoi highly appreciated the efforts of the Vietnam Union of Mulberry, Silkworm, and Silk Enterprises over the past four years to motivate and organize the people to satisfactorily develop mulberry and silkworm farming, increasing the mulberry area from 4,700 hectares to 20,000 hectares nationwide, 1,200 of which were grown by the union's state farms themselves. The national silk output of 70 metric tons in 1986 has been increased to 420 metric tons, almost 137 of which were produced by the union. The Vietnamese mulberry, silkworm, and silk industries have exported products with a total value of 10 million rubles and dollars, remitted 2,608 million dong to the state budget, and built initial material bases worth more than 60 billion dong. These are fine initial results which create a momentum for further development of the industry in the coming years.

Chairman Do Muoi advised the union that, to achieve efficency in production and trade and to become the mulberry, silkworm, and silk production center for the entire country, it should step up scientific research and apply biotechnology to developing mulberry and silkworm farming and silk processing. Since the local pedological and ecological conditions are favorable for mulberry and silkworm farming, the silk industry should make in-depth investment for the introduction of new technology and scientific advances to production. However, the silk industry must work together with the localities concerned to satisfactorily carry out education and training work, make every effort to expand schools and classrooms to help everyone to become literate and to enable all children of school age to go to school. Only by raising the people's cultural level will we be able to increase production efficiency. Here, since we already have clement weather and favorable terrain, the only remaining decisive factor is the quality of people. If the people's cultural level is not high, it is impossible to enhance efficiency, quality, and the value of products.

Together with the mulberry and silkworm state farms, the agricultural state farms and lumber yards of the various unions of tea and coffee enterprises in Lam Dong should know how to satisfactorily exploit the potentials and strengths of hilly and mountainous areas, using them to produce wealth in the service of the economic programs. However, each state-operated unit in Lam Dong should effectively carry out social welfare work and each agricultural state farm and lumber yard must be a model of the resettlement of nomadics and must really pay attention to the material and spiritual life of the ethnic minorities and of cadres, workers, and civil servants. They must see to it that all families work well in earning their living, effectively exploit garden economy, and grow large quantities of high-yield and good quality tea and coffee. They should pay fair prices for the products bought from growers and should avoid depressing prices so as to enable the people to improve their living standards. They should also see to it that there are no more poor households. Industrial sectors should carry out research to apply scientific advances to production and should guide the people in applying these advances. The engineering sector should carry out research and produce compact and easy to use equipment for forest and agricultural product processing and supply it to the people to make their work easier and improve their output and efficiency.

Chairman Do Muoi visited the family of Mr. Nguyen Xuan The at Kohinda State Farm and the families of brothers Ca Deo and Ca Ma of Co-ho ethnic minority group in M'do Hamlet, Loc An Village, Bao Loc District. The chairman hailed them for satisfactorily organizing production work, effectively exploiting their own gardens and the hilly land allocated to them under contract, doing a good job of growing mulberry and raising silkworms, supplying large quantities of cocoons to the Union of Mulberry, Silkworm, and Silk Enterprises, and growing large areas of tea and coffee to increase their families' income.

Besides the families who excelled in production work and enjoyed fairly good living conditions, Chairman Do Muoi also visited and talked with some families who did not do well in production, had low income, and faced difficulties in daily life. Most of these families were barely literate and had many children but little manpower. The chairman reminded the local leaders to pay attention to the poor families and help them carry out production work in a scientific manner. They should invest more capital and crop seeds and create favorable conditions for these families to increase production.

While visiting the 2 September tea factory of the Lam Dong union of tea enterprises, after hearing a briefing given by Comrade Tran Van Tot, director general of the union, Chairman Do Muoi said: As is the case with the coffee and sericultural sectors, tea growing in Lam Dong has developed very favorably. Tea areas have been expanded over the years. However, we need to renovate the processing method if we are to increase the value of tea products to meet the taste of customers at home and abroad.

As the latent potential of the Lam Dong tea sector still remains very great, the Lam Dong union of tea enterprises should boldly renovate its production and business method by urging various economic components to participate in production and should continue to make technological investments in order to improve the output and quality of its processed end-products and to gradually reduce the quantities of low-priced tea sold abroad as by-products. The state will study various policies on bank interests, funding, and ways to create favorable and encouraging conditions for the tea sector as well as other production sectors in the developing Central Highlands.

Stockbreeding is one of the production sectors in the mountain region which captured the attention of Chairman Do Muoi. During this official trip, the chairman paid a working visit to the Lam Dong dairy cow breeding farm under the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry. Comrade Tran Khac Do, director of the farm, guided Chairman Do Muoi on a tour of various feed processing facilities and several pure-bred dairy cow breeding stables and briefed the chairman on the growth of the farm over the past 12 years since its founding in 1978. Starting with 254 breeding dairy cows, the farm now has a total of 1,447 cows, of which 1,294 are pure-bred, and is capable of providing some 2,000 metric tons of fresh milk annually to various processing enterprises with its output value amounting to 2.729 billion dong. The farm, with over 5,000 hectares of pasture, is striving to quickly increase its cow population to 1,500, including those for slaughter which are now being fed and multiplied, in an effort to provide more breeding dairy cows and cows for slaughter to various nearby localities.

Chairman Do Muoi hailed the cadres and workers of the farm for their efforts to maintain and develop the pure-bred breeding dairy cow population. He expressed the hope that these dairy cows as well as the herd of breeding cows for slaughter will increasingly develop so as to ensure the adequate supply of milk and meat to various processing plants and of breeding cows to the people. The farm should, together with other cow breeding centers, strive to multiply those species of pure-bred cows capable of adjusting themselves to the weather and environment in Vietnam. This is to ensure the adequate supply of breeding cows to rural and suburban families for breeding and of meat and milk to meet the people's needs.

During his stay in Lam Dong, Chairman Do Muoi visited the Dalat nuclear research institute and its nuclear reactor and other laboratories that are conducting research and test-application of nuclear technologies in production and life.

Cordially addressing scientists as well as cadres and workers of the institute, Chairman Do Muoi commended the institute for its contributions to maintaining and developing the operations of the nation's only nuclear reactor which, though small in size, has over the years conducted much successful research, turning out countless products to practically serve the people's lives such as producing radioactive isotopes for use in disease diagnosis and treatment and in the biological industry in the service of agriculture and forestry.

The chairman expressed hope that Vietnamese nuclear research will continue to make positive contributions to the application and development of the nuclear industry for peaceful purposes in support of national construction. In the years to come and in the long run, as building and developing the nuclear sector is a must, we should continue to train the contingent of scientific and technical cadres in preparation for this developmental trend.

On behalf of the party Central Committee, the party Central Committee's Military Commission, and the Council of Ministers, Chairman Do Muoi paid a Tet lunar new year greeting visit to the cadres and combatants of the Dalat Infantry Academy where he said: Faced with an eventful international situation, although we wish to live in peace, we should not neglect the task of building a clean and steadfast armed forces capable of staying combat ready for national defense. Therefore, cadres, combatants, instructors, and students of the institute should struggle to overcome difficulties in satisfactorily carrying out their academic and scholastic activities. Meanwhile, they should continue to study and draw on valuable experiences in connection with the people's war concept learned by our party during the two resistance wars so they can turn out a new generation of competent cadres of good virtue truly befitting the name of Uncle Ho's invincible troops who are loved by the people.

Like in other mountain provinces, Chairman Do Muoi was also very concerned about the material and spiritual life of the local multiethnic people of Lam Dong. In various localities, the chairman tried to find out the reasons why the people remain underfed and poor. He also tried to find ways to solve this problem in order to make all people plentiful and happy in accordance with Uncle Ho's wishes. Facts show that wherever the people's lives are better off, social establishments will develop. This is socioeconomic interaction.

The chairman also toured an elementary school reserved for the Co-ho ethnic people at Loc An village of Bao Loc district; the Minh Trang Hoa elementary school in Di Linh district; the elementary school of the Duc Trong district milk cow breeding farm; and the S.O.S. Children's Village of Dalat City. He was very moved when speaking with the ethnic teachers and students. Here, the people are still poor and their educational system has therefore not been given appropriate attention. The number of dropouts among school- age children are large while the teachers' living standard is very low. They could not profit much from the land they were given for gardening. Because of a failure to develop education, the people's knowledge remains low, thus having a direct impact on the level of intensive crop cultivation in this fertile land and on the people's welfare.

Chairman Do Muoi also urged those comrades in the standing committees of the Lam Dong provincial party and people's committees to promptly study and come up with an appropriate socioeconomic development strategy. As Lam Dong has great potential in land, mineral resources, agriculture, and tourism, it is necessary to harness to the fullest this strength. To achieve this aim, the province should practice thrift and invest more in education in order to improve the people's knowledge. It should introduce the scientific and technical revolution, notably biological industry, into agricultural and forestry production, and continue to rearrange and streamline personnel staffs and train trade management cadres. But the preliminary target remains how to improve the people's knowledge. If the people's knowledge is not improved, production and business will not develop. The educational responsibility rests with the entire people as well as with the party organizations and the administrations at various levels. Lam Dong should strive to satisfactorily perform tasks in order to contribute to building itself into a prosperous and beautiful province where poverty will no longer exist, where all the people are literate, and where their production will develop, thus enabling them to solve their own financial problems and contribute to the state.

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